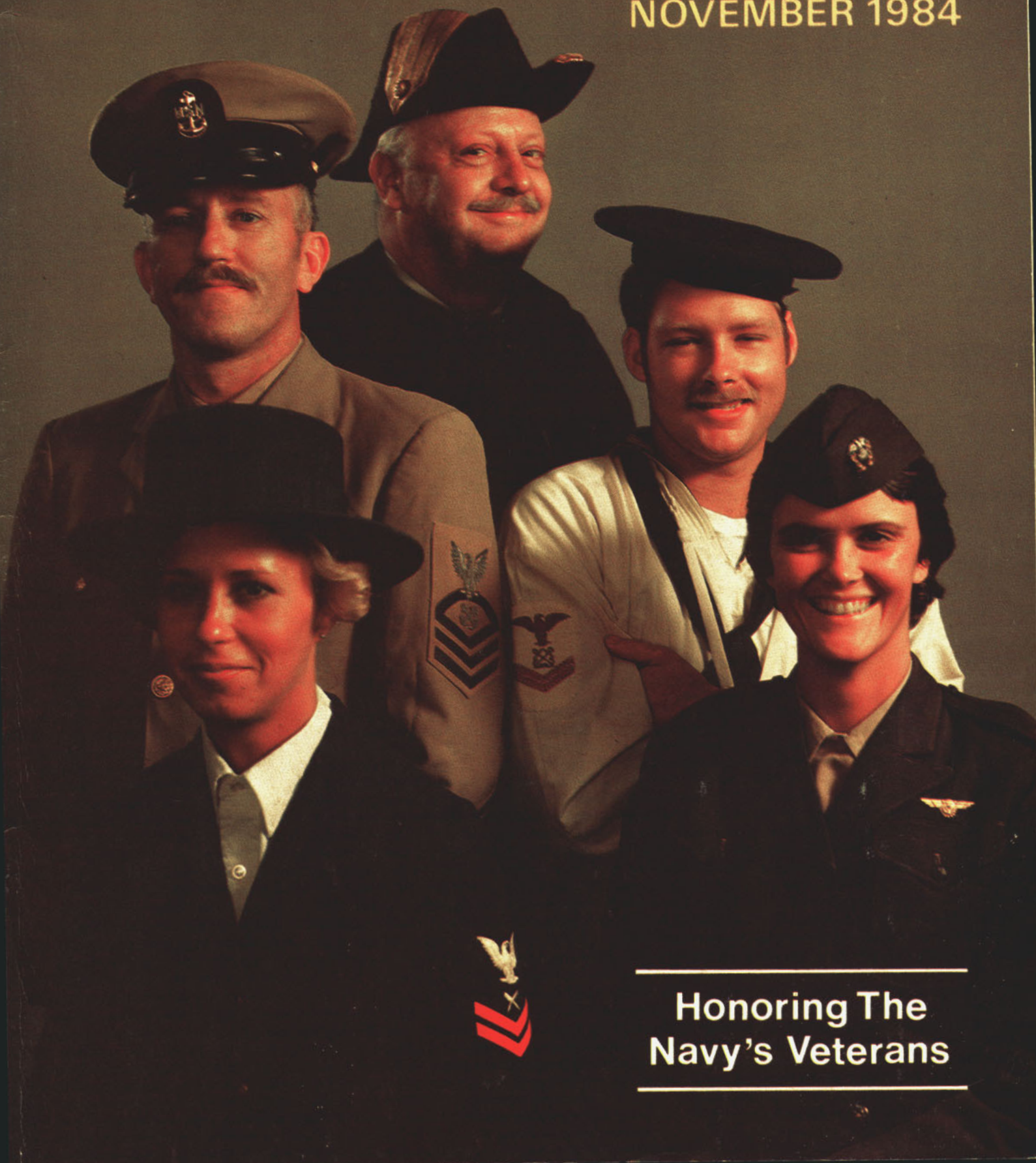


ALL HANDS

NOVEMBER 1984



Honoring The
Navy's Veterans



World War I veteran Joe Ambrose (right) walks alongside an unidentified Vietnam veteran during the national salute and parade for Vietnam veterans held in Washington, D.C., in November 1982. Ambrose's son died in the Korean War and the flag he holds draped his son's casket. Photo by JOC(SW) Fred J. Klinkenberger Jr.

ALL HANDS

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Covers:

Front: Uniforms from the Navy's past: (clockwise from top) World War II and earlier formal dress officer blues (with Commodore insignia), turn-of-the-century boatswain's mate third class whites, 1950s-era flight nurse greens (with lieutenant insignia), World War I-era yeoman (F) blues, and 1960s chief boatswain's mate khakis. Uniforms courtesy of the Naval Historical Center.

Back: Marine Corps Major Terry Labar, a paraplegic, tries leg braces at the Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center, Richmond, Va. Photo by JO1 Gary Hopkins.



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Veterans Day: A



Time For Rededication

An American soldier, his name, "... known but to God," was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington on Nov. 11, 1921.

The Arlington National Cemetery burial site of this unknown World War I soldier has come to personify the nation's reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies had been held earlier in England and France, where unknown soldiers were buried in their nation's highest place of honor, Westminster Abbey in England and at the Arc de Triomphe in France.

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11 to recognize the end of World War I hostilities. The Allies, to commemorate this solemn occasion, looked to the 20th chapter of Matthew in the New Testament where the 11th hour is defined as the last possible time. So it was that the Allies came to end "the war to end all wars" on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. The observance became known as Armistice Day and was officially sanctioned in the

United States in 1926 by congressional resolution. It became a national holiday the same way 12 years later.

November 11 still might be called Armistice Day if the idealistic hope that World War I was the last global conflict had been realized. World War II broke out in Europe shortly after the holiday was proclaimed, shattering the dream.

Armistice Day became Veterans Day in 1954 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the bill changing the name for that year's November 11 observance. The former military leader of the assault on the European fortress asked Americans to honor the more than 407,000 Americans who died in World War II and the 16.5 million who had served their country by rededicating themselves to peace.

Opposite page: Sailors carry the casket of World War I's Unknown Soldier off the USS Olympia (C 6) after it arrived from France on Nov. 9, 1921. U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph, courtesy of Cmdr. D.J. Robinson, USN-R. Below: Veterans pay their respects during observances at Arlington National Cemetery. U.S. Army photo by Robert D. Ward.



Veterans Day

Veterans Day took on added significance in 1958 when unknown soldiers killed in World War II and the Korean conflict were laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery beside their World War I comrade in what then was named the "Tomb of the Unknowns."

Congress, in 1973, provided for interment of an unknown serviceman killed in Vietnam, and the nation honored and laid this fallen hero to rest on Memorial Day, May 28, 1984.

Millions of Americans visit the Tomb of the Unknowns each year to honor those who gave their lives in their country's de-

fense. They stand silently, some saying prayers, as the honor guard from the 3rd United States Infantry—The Old Guard—keeps its vigil day and night.

Congress changed the Veterans Day observance in 1968 to the fourth Monday in October, but the 11th hour of the 11th day in the 11th month was of such historic and patriotic significance and so ingrained in the national conscience that complaints about the switch convinced Congress to return the day, in 1978, to Nov. 11.

Veterans Day continues to recognize the important contributions of millions of Americans whose military service has so

profoundly affected the history of this nation and the world. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

A color guard from all services presents arms at the tomb and a bugler sounds taps in tribute to veterans. Americans are reminded of those times when their country battled against aggression, injustice and tyranny. They recall that American patriots in all generations have drawn upon their freedom for the will and the courage to fight for their country and its ideals. More than 39 million in number, they



fought and died from Bunker Hill to Bastogne, Belgium, from the Mariana Islands to the Mekong Valley in Vietnam.

America's national salute to veterans on November 11 is an annual time for prayers, parades and speakers, many trying to emulate an address delivered 119 years ago.

There was no Veterans Day then. There was only a time of great uncertainty—during a bloody struggle—when Abraham Lincoln spoke at Gettysburg of an obligation to those who died so the nation might endure:

"It is for us, the living . . . to be ded-

icated here to the unfinished work which they have thus far so nobly advanced. It is . . . for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion . . ."

The meaning of Lincoln's words is re-emphasized today by the fact that 85 percent of the 30 million American veterans served during their country's wars.

Veterans Day is more important than statistics. It is a day for all citizens to recall battles and dark periods of adversity. It is a day to remember bright vic-

tories, devotion and bravery. It is a day for those who came here since Vietnam and those who seek these shores to reflect on the contributions of those who made it possible and to contribute to their new land.

Most importantly, perhaps, it is a day when a grateful nation rededicates itself to Lincoln's call on Congress and the American people, "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

So too to this, do those of us who have taken up the burden of our fallen and retired comrades rededicate ourselves on this Veterans Day, 1984. □



Opposite page: Pallbearers carry coffins of the Unknown Americans of World War II and Korea from the U.S. Capitol Building on May 30, 1958, to caissons for the trip to their final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery. U.S. Army photo. Center: Two World War I veterans pay homage to a fallen, unknown comrade at the cemetery. Above: Members of the Washington, D.C.-based multiservice honor guard stand a silent vigil by the coffin of the Unknown Serviceman from Vietnam during the coffin's viewing in the U.S. Capitol rotunda before interment in Arlington National Cemetery. Photo by JOC(SW) Fred J. Klinkenberger Jr.

Attitudes Change Toward Vietnam Veterans

America's attitude toward Vietnam-era veterans and the military is shifting from negative to positive, said James H. Webb Jr., assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs.

The shift, Webb said, began during the 1979 Iran-Afghanistan period when Americans saw how helpless the country was to control such events and began to understand the need for a more visible operational military force.

"The hostages came home from Iran, and I was inundated with phone calls," said Webb who, at the time, was minority counsel to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. "A lot of people suddenly snapped out of their post-Vietnam doldrums and out of the guilt trip they were on. Each call had the same tone, 'What can we do for the veterans?' " Webb explained.

Other factors affecting the shift in America's attitude come from the veterans themselves. When the veterans came home, he noted, an overwhelming majority put their lives together, sometimes without the support of their communities, and emerged stronger for achieving that.

"These people have been quietly

merging into the country's leadership, management and midmanagement positions," he said. "We now see Vietnam veterans as governors of states and editors of national magazines such as *Newsweek*."

He considers the Vietnam veteran unique; not for what he did during his military service or for the circumstances surrounding the Vietnam era, but because of his age.

"The Vietnam veterans, as an overall age group, were young, younger than those who went to combat in other wars. They did more, suffered more, grew more and came back stronger than their non-veteran peers. They are now the strongest element in their age group," Webb said.

Webb cited the 1980 Harris Poll as an indication of the veterans' positive outlook toward their military service: 91 percent of all theater veterans, those who served in Vietnam, were glad they had served; 74 percent enjoyed their time in the military, and more than 66 percent would do it again, even knowing the political and social results.

"This was the most extensive poll ever taken on the attitudes of Vietnam veter-

ans," Webb said, "and it makes a tremendously strong statement about their sense of country."

People in this country have always felt good about the Vietnam veterans, according to Webb, but in spite of positive national and veteran attitudes, there still are some problems.

"What the American people have lacked was a tangible way to express their gratitude to the veterans," he said. "Because of that, several issues—such as draft evasion, drugs and Agent Orange—became emotional symbols rather than rational issues."

Webb explained that 18 million of the 27 million men who were eligible for the draft during the Vietnam era did not serve in uniform. Very few were draft evaders who left the country, he said.

"Most of the 18 million used the legal process to stay out of the military. Some finished college; others had physical deferments; others claimed conscientious objection and helped in other

James H. Webb Jr. gets back to the field with the Marines at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He served with the First Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division in Vietnam. Photo by Cpl. Paul Younghaus, USMC.



Attitudes Change

areas—communities and veterans' hospitals.

"We are a multicultural nation in a state of continuous abrasion," he continued. "What may be moral for one person may be immoral for another. What is important is that each person recognize the supremacy of law over the individual in society; each must recognize his obligation to that law.

"The conscientious objector who helped in mental institutions or helped with casualties back here demonstrated his sense of obligation and that his interest wasn't purely self-interest. He had convictions to which he held, and it's the strength of our system that there is enough room to deal with such people on an equitable basis," he noted.

Webb explained that those who did serve in the military were under much greater scrutiny than the people in the same age group who did not serve. This showed up in reports of excessive drug use in the military during the Vietnam era, according to Webb.

"Drug use in Vietnam varied year by year, unit by unit and service by service," he said. "Studies show there is no difference statistically between drug use by Vietnam veterans and non-Vietnam veterans in the same age group.

"The military in a democratic society rarely deviates in its norms too far from the norms of society as a whole. In the late 1970s and 1971, when heroin was a serious problem, an enormous percentage of military people who used the drug were drug users before entering the service. Our military services by and large reflect society as a whole," he said.

Agent Orange is another problem area, according to Webb.

"When talking about veterans," he said, "it is important to make sure the expressions of concern and good will are made through the right devices.

"Agent Orange, for example, is a way in which the affected veteran can be por-

trayed as a victim, as a loser. We should be concerned about Agent Orange, but the number of people exposed to dioxin is far less than usually portrayed. But the issue has become one of several ways to present Vietnam in a negative light. Those people who cannot, for one reason or another, respect the veteran or what he stands for in connection with Vietnam seek ways to portray him as a victim. They can throw him a few bones of affection without compromising their own position or beliefs.

"I think it is important to honor not only the people who served in Vietnam, but to honor all those who serve in the military. Our servicemen and women make sacrifices and work hard every day. The Navy, for example, is working as hard now as it ever has. Consider the 140-day deployments without shore liberty. It's a hardship the Navy is trying to ease, but a hardship nonetheless," Webb concluded.

* * *

Assistant Secretary Webb, 38, is a

1968 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He served with the First Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division as a rifle platoon commander and company commander in Vietnam February 1969 to March 1970 and was medically retired from the Marine Corps in 1972. He earned the Navy Cross, Silver Star, two Bronze Stars with Combat "V" and two Purple Hearts. Two books he published, "Fields of Fire" and "A Country Such As This," were nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, and a third, "A Sense of Honor," was a best seller. Secretary Webb, who holds a law degree from Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., recently was honored by the National Academy of Television, Arts and Sciences with an Emmy Award for his coverage of the U.S. Marines in Beirut in a segment of the Public Broadcasting Service McNeil-Lehrer News Hour in 1983. □

—Story by JOC Barbara A. Cornfeld and JOC(SW) Fred J. Klinkenberger Jr.



"The hostages came home from Iran, and I was inundated with phone calls...people suddenly snapped out of their post-Vietnam doldrums. (They asked) 'What can we do for the veterans?'" said James H. Webb Jr. Photo by JOC(SW) Fred J. Klinkenberger Jr.

Know Your Veterans' Rights

Here are the most frequently asked questions about veterans' benefits and their answers. More information is available by telephoning, toll free, the benefits assistance number listed in your telephone book under "U.S. Government, Veterans Administration."

How does the type of discharge affect eligibility for benefits?

Honorable and general discharges qualify the veteran as eligible for benefits. Dishonorable and bad conduct discharges issued by general courts-martial are a bar against VA benefits. Other bad conduct discharges and those characterized by the service departments as "other than dishonorable" may or may not qualify, depending on a special determination made by the VA based on the facts of each case.

Is there a minimum amount of time a person must serve in the military to qualify for VA benefits?

Generally, yes. People who enlisted the first time on or after Sept. 8, 1980, must complete at least two years of continuous active duty or the full period for which the person was called to active duty. For officers, the two-year requirement applies on or after Oct. 17, 1981. For veterans who enlisted prior to Sept. 8, 1980, the time limit usually depends on the benefit. Exceptions are made for veterans discharged because of service-connected disability.

What are the eligibility requirements for receipt of VA compensation benefits?

Veterans must have a disability incurred in, or aggravated by, military service and rated at 10 percent or more. The veteran also must have an other than dishonorable discharge.

What are the requirements for pension benefits?

Veterans must have had at least 90 days of wartime service, be considered as permanently and totally disabled, incapable of engaging in substantially gainful employment and have an income less than specified limitations.

Are people discharged from military service entitled to unemployment compensation?

Recent changes in federal law have restricted eligibility. Veterans should apply at their local state employment office immediately after leaving the service and present a copy of their DD Form 214 to determine eligibility for benefits.

What are the procedures for applying for a home loan under the GI Bill, and how is the rate of interest determined?

Veterans must first apply for a certificate of eligibility from the VA by submitting the proper application and a copy of their discharge. The application is usually available from realtors, VA offices and lending institutions. The certificate then is presented to the lending institution who submits the loan application to the VA for approval. The VA does not make the loan—it guarantees it. It is the veteran's responsibility to find a lending institution. The VA sets the maximum interest the lender can charge.

Are veterans eligible for dental benefits?

Veterans may be eligible but must apply for an examination within 90 days of separation. If the examination reveals any non-compensable service-connected condition, the VA will provide treatment on a one-time basis. Veterans may be provided unlimited dental treatment for conditions that are service-connected to a compensable degree.

Is there a deadline for filing a claim for an illness or injury which occurred during my military service?

There is no deadline. It is always best to file a claim soon after your discharge from service.

What is the priority for admission to a VA medical facility?

1) Veterans with a service-connected disability seeking care for that disability; 2) Veterans with a service-connected disability seeking treatment for other than that disability; 3) Veterans without service-related disabilities who need inpatient care and cannot pay for treatment elsewhere.

Do veterans receive special consideration for federal employment?

Yes. There are generally two classes of preference: five-point preference is given to honorably separated veterans who served on active duty during specific periods, and 10-point preference is given to honorably separated veterans who have a service-connected disability. More specific details may be obtained from a federal agency personnel office.

Do veterans have a right to their previous civilian jobs when they leave the service?

Yes. You have a legal right to return to the job you held before you went into the military. This right includes any pay increases or promotions you would have normally received had you been there all along.

What should veterans do with their military separation documents?

Veterans will be asked for their separation documents many times. These papers hold the key to benefit claims by veterans, their families and survivors, even years after completion of active service. Veterans are responsible for safeguarding these important documents. □

Veterans' Education Benefits

Soon after leaving active duty, veterans receive from the Veterans Administration, a package containing a pamphlet outlining education benefits and other pamphlets about student loans and insurance.

Veterans who entered the military on Jan. 1, 1977, or after, and have contributed to the Veterans Educational Assistance Program, get a package including VEAP information and an application for education assistance.

Follow-up letters are sent to veterans about six months later.

A special effort is made by VA regional offices and centers to contact veterans with less than a high school education to encourage them to take advantage of their education benefits.

Through Veterans' Eyes

Former Master Chief Petty Officers of the Navy Look Back at their Careers and at the Civilian World

Story by JOCM John D. Burlage

Retired Master Chief Petty Officers of the Navy are a very special breed of Navy veteran.

Here, they talk about adjustments they've made, compare their seafaring days with civilian life and reveal the reactions of civilians they've met to military people and veterans. One MCPON has a recommendation for the Chief of Naval Operations.

Burlage, the command master chief in the office of the Chief of Information and the Navy's top enlisted journalist, will become a veteran himself when he retires later this year.

Here, in the order they were named to the Navy's number one enlisted billet, are the stories of the Navy's retired MCPONs.

DELBERT D. BLACK

Oklahoma-born Del Black joined the Navy March 14, 1941. His first assignment after recruit training was to the battleship USS *Maryland* (BB 46), and he was a deck seaman aboard the dreadnaught when it became one of the 17 ships sunk or damaged in the Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Black was unhurt and served as a gunner's mate aboard nine other ships and at duty stations around the world before he was selected as the first MCPON in January 1967. He retired March 31, 1971, as the

Delbert D. Black served as MCPON from Jan. 13, 1967, to April 1, 1971.



first enlisted Navyman awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

Black and his wife, Ima, moved to Orlando, Fla. "I was attracted to Orlando immediately when I accompanied the CNO there when the Air Force turned over its base to the Navy," he said. That base now is the Naval Training Center Orlando. For seven years, Black specialized in residential and commercial real estate sales.

Semiretired from the real estate business now, Black spends a considerable amount of his time serving the Navy's active duty and retired communities in various capacities.

Much of his day-to-day work is as a volunteer for a retired affairs office he established eight years ago at NTC Orlando, and from which he carries on most of his activities with the retired community. He has been co-chairman of the secretary of the navy's committee on retirees and a member of the board of directors of the central Florida United Services Organization. He gives presentations on military matters to civilian groups and organizations, and, for seven years, has been the featured speaker on legislative matters af-



Former MCPON Delbert D. Black and his wife, Ima J., enjoy civilian life.

fecting the military during an annual retiree seminar at NTC Orlando.

Black's first professional love, and the source of most of his involvement with the Navy, is the Fleet Reserve Association. He is a member of FRA branch 117 and a former regional president of the organization.

"I never joined any of the bigger veterans' organizations because I felt they speak a different language than retirees do," Black says. "Their interests seemed different to me than mine—more for the one-termer than for the person who spent most of his life in the service. I became very involved with the FRA because I believe it's the one organization dedicated exclusively to providing service and assistance to active duty and retired Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel. We don't sell anything that benefits our officers or employees; we just provide services for our people."

Black says he also is an eight-handicap golfer who never rides a golf cart on the course and who walks 2½ miles a day with his wife near their lakefront home about seven miles from Orlando.

The former MCPON says his wife's support was critical throughout his career. "My record would not be complete without recognizing the important role my wife played. I give her a lot of credit for my being selected as the MCPON," he says.

Black has some pointed opinions about the attitudes toward military people held by those outside the services, including some in important positions.

"Veterans in this area generally have a fairly good picture of the service they were in," he says, "but, unless they were in the Navy, they don't understand the vicissitudes of life at sea. Even so, by and large, they understand the problems of people who have served their country in uniform. Unlike many non-veterans, they know the serviceman doesn't have it as good as many civilians think he does."

"I don't think our problem today is with the veteran's attitude toward the military. Our problem is we have more and more congressmen in Washington who have never been in the armed forces. They don't understand the long hours, separations, crowded conditions and low pay compared to the civilian community. Also,

most veterans I've come in contact with are very perturbed by the president's private sector survey on cost controls, otherwise known as the 'grace commission.' Most think many of the commission's recommendations are outrageous."

Black says he uses many of the benefits one earns during a military career—commissary, exchange, "everything except the GI Bill." Although his own contacts with the Veterans Administration have been limited, he says most veterans who have discussed the VA with him give the agency high marks. "They don't seem to have enough people for the job they do, though," he added.

One way, Black said, for more people to understand what the military is about is for more people to serve in the military. In other words, he endorses strongly a return to the draft.

But what of the outspoken opponents of the draft, or, for that matter, of the military itself?

"We could change their minds if we could get them into a uniform," was his quick reply.

Black said he limits his political activities to voting regularly.

"I think too many politicians put their party ahead of national security," he said. "The nation comes first with me, so I avoid political ties."

Black still wears his uniform on special occasions, as when he was invited to graduation ceremonies at the Recruit Training Command, Orlando.

He said wearing the uniform is just another way he can prove "I have never lost my interest in the needs of enlisted Navy people, and I never will." He told of his pleasure at still getting letters seeking advice from sailors ranging from recruits to chief petty officers.

"It's things like that make you even prouder of what you were, and help you enjoy your life all the more."

JOHN D. WHITTET

Rhode Island native Jack Whittet changed his rating to Navy master-at-arms

Veterans' Eyes

from aviation machinist's mate after he was selected in early 1970 to relieve Del Black as MCPON. He earned combat aircrewman wings during World War II flying missions with a torpedo squadron off the aircraft carriers USS *Lexington* (CV 2) and USS *Anzio* (CVE 57). He also served with a carrier air group aboard USS *Bon Homme Richard* (CV 31) during combat action in the Korean War and Vietnam.

After a variety of aviation and general-duty assignments, Whittet held two force master chief posts—known then as “senior enlisted advisers”—before he was named MCPON. He left the job in September 1975, ending the longest tour of any MCPON.

Whittet generally is considered to have been the most politically active of the former MCPONs, primarily because his first venture after his retirement was to become assistant campaign manager for the unsuccessful Senate try of one of the CNO's under whom he served, Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. Actually, Whittet said, he began to appreciate the power of politics while he was still MCPON.

“It was a time of dynamic change in the Navy,” he said in understatement, “and I began to realize how much power Congress has over the lives of sailors and their families generally when I was called on to testify before the various House and Senate armed services committee and subcommittees.”

After the Zumwalt campaign, Whittet accepted a position in membership development with the Non-Commissioned Officers Association which took him on trips around the country. Until he gave up that job to settle permanently in southern California, he took advantage of his position to stress to active duty and retired military people the need to take as intense an interest in politics as the law allows. For him, he said, the bottom line was the need for military people to become aware of the issues and to send a message to politicians that the military could be an influential voting bloc.

“I cited the records on defense issues of our congressmen,” Whittet said, “and urged support of those who were for a strong military. I knew if we could get military people enthused, we could create a powerful voting bloc.”

But it didn't work, Whittet admitted. “We do have retired and active-duty people who are aware of what's going on,” he said, “but their voice is too splintered because they're in too many different organizations. They won't band together so they can have a bloc of votes that makes politicians listen to what they have to say.”

Also, Whittet emphasized, the sad fact is a great many of military people simply don't bother to vote. He considers that failure the real shame.

Once established in Coronado, Calif., Whittet joined with a former shipmate in 1976 to open a plumbing and electrical repair firm. He said the venture owed its subsequent success to the fact most of the firm's employees were former Navy peo-

ple. He sold his share of the business this year, because, he said, “other interests were placing too many demands on my time.”

Whittet said his professional life today is given over almost exclusively to his full-time job as director of the recreational services department for the Naval Amphibious Base at Coronado.

California living has been a revelation for Whittet. He said most of his neighbors, even in a community including many retired and active duty Navy people, don't have the right attitude toward the nation's servicemen and women.

“It leans on the negative side,” was his blunt assessment. “It's hard to really put your finger on it, but I have the definite

John D. Whittet served as MCPON from April 1, 1971, to Sept. 25, 1975.



Photo by G.D. Hughes, NavSta, Washington, D.C.

impression people here just aren't in touch with the demands placed on our officers and enlisted people.

"There's limited media coverage of the positive aspects of the military. The sacrifices required of a young military family are something the civilian community simply does not understand and is not terribly interested in."

In large part, Whittet faults civilian media for the lack of understanding he perceives. "The services do a good job of selling themselves and their worthwhile accomplishments, but I don't think the local press is doing all it could in that arena," he said.

For his part, Whittet said he wouldn't trade a second of his 33-year Navy career for any other experience.

"Everything I've done since I left the service somehow was a result of, or was related to, something I learned while I was in. My experience was the reason I was asked to work with the Zumwalt campaign and the NCOA. Years of training and getting the job done were reflected in a successful venture into the business world. I could never have qualified for my current job without the strengths the Navy gave me. The Navy had, all in all, a tremendously positive impact on my life.

"I look on my years in the Navy as virtually my whole life, and I have nothing but the fondest memories. I'm delighted with the professional and leadership training I received from my seniors, and even more of the everyday, nuts and bolts, common sense they pounded into me as a youngster. What the Navy did for me has paid off handsomely for me and my family."

Whittet's very positive attitude toward his Navy career is reflected by the fact he has worn his uniform on several occasions since retirement, when requested, primarily for formal speeches he has given to active-duty audiences.

These days, Whittet and his wife, Helen, live in a waterfront and marina development in Coronado, "comfortably close to all the children and grandchildren." He makes good use of the benefits he earned during his Navy career, although he sometimes uses civilian medical care for its convenience.

As for his previously active political



Photo by PH3 Michael L. Smith, NavSta, Washington, D.C.

Robert J. Walker served as MCPON from Sept. 25, 1975, to Sept. 28, 1979.

life, Whittet said he restricts himself now to keeping abreast of the issues which interest him and to supporting and voting for candidates whose views parallel his. The cutback is as much a matter of personal desire as it is the result of political restrictions placed on civil servants. He hopes to become a more active member of a veterans' organization, but, right now, he said, "my schedule doesn't allow me the time."

There is one event, he said that would draw him back to active politics. Another Zumwalt candidacy.

ROBERT J. WALKER

When he retired as the third MCPON in September 1979, Bob Walker ended a 32-year career that began with his enlistment in the Navy in his home state of New

York. Sea-intensive assignments were typical of a radarman later converted to the new rating of operations specialist. As a master chief, he became a senior enlisted adviser during a tour aboard a destroyer, and continued in that capacity either part or full time in subsequent assignments. He was a force master chief when selected as MCPON.

Today, Walker is senior vice president for field development for the NCOA. Walker and his wife, Frances, live in a suburb of Virginia Beach, Va.

Walker said virtually all his activities these days are tied somehow to the NCOA. He's outspokenly proud of the organization designed, he said, to provide a wide range of services to its 170,000 members from all the armed services. Through the NCOA, he serves on the board of directors

Veterans' Eyes

of the local March of Dimes campaign, and is active in the local chamber of commerce. He has accepted a chamber of commerce committee chairmanship for 1985. He also writes articles for the Tidewater-area Navy newspaper on legislative and retiree matters.

"I'd say my views [about his life as a sailor] are pretty much the same as they were when I was on active duty," Walker said. "I'm very proud of who and what I was, and I'm delighted to see the higher level of patriotism that seems to exist in this country today."

He said today's military, unlike that of the Vietnam era, has strong civilian support—but it has to be cultivated. "The military has to present itself as being an attractive organization, as offering its members certain benefits, training opportunities, and demanding, fulfilling jobs," he said.

Walker said his work for the NCOA doesn't leave him much time for other veterans' organizations, but he feels they're worthy groups. "They represent themselves in a very capable manner, and I try to do the same [for the NCOA]," he said.

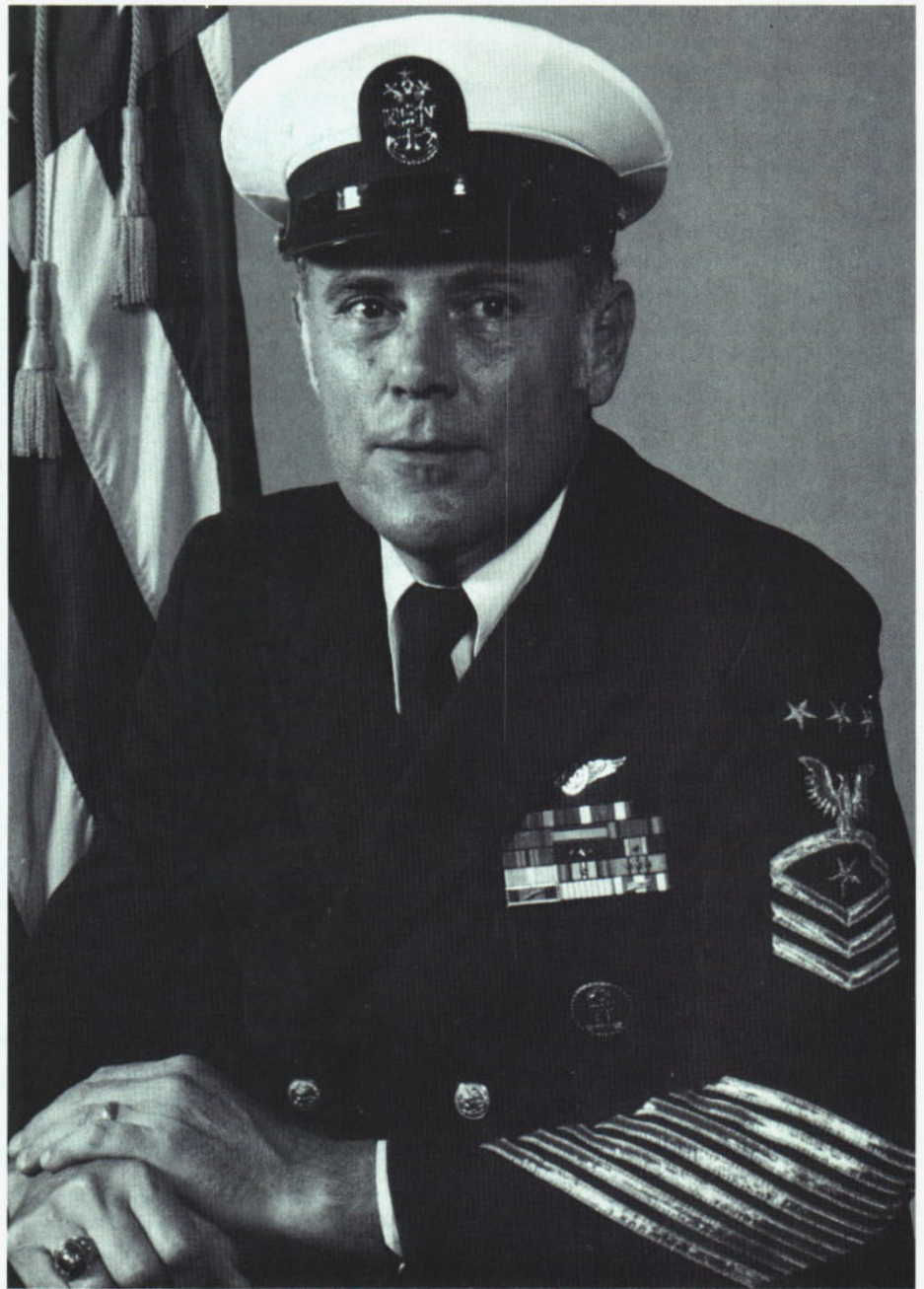
He feels the attitude of veterans toward their service tours becomes distorted with time.

"It seems the longer an individual is out, the more unrealistic his views of the military become," the former MCPON said. "There's nothing much you can do about it; it's just a fact of life. The older vets still think of the service as it was when they were in—cheap cigarettes, no social security, no income tax. Unfortunately, many civilians without military experience also feel that way."

Walker gets very positive vibrations about the relationships between the Navy and the communities in the Tidewater area.

"The relationships are just outstanding," he declared. "Cities in the area do everything they can to promote and support the Navy, and they really appreciate what the Navy's doing for them." He would like nothing better than to bury forever the reputation Norfolk acquired years ago as being hostile to Navy families.

Walker said he is reasonably active politically, citing membership in a political club as an example. "It stems from my



Thomas S. Crow served as MCPON from Sept. 28, 1979, to Oct. 1, 1982.

personal concern about what I see happening in the country," he said. "I became involved so perhaps I can help further the causes I believe in."

The benefits he earned in the Navy—commissary, exchange, the like—still prove useful to Walker and his family. His contacts with the Veterans Administration have been limited, but, he said, his peers rate the VA highly. He still wears his uniform for such events as the Navy Birthday ball and dinings-in.

Walker has a specific suggestion he'd like the Navy to consider:

"I think the CNO, as often as annually, should invite all the retired MCPONs to

Washington for sessions with selected representatives of the Navy—including the incumbent MCPON—to discuss matters important to both the retired and active duty communities. There's a wealth of experience among us, and we now have some new perspectives as retirees and veterans. I think we could give some pretty good input into such things as what prospective retirees have to face, and the bumps Navy people take [during their careers]."

He said his Navy career has done nothing but make his life since retirement more satisfying.

"I've been accepted by everybody," he said. "In fact, when people find out I

once was MCPON, their reaction always seems even more positive. It's made life even easier for me since I left the service."

THOMAS S. CROW

Undoubtedly because he's the most recent MCPON to retire, Tom Crow has some intense memories of his transition from sailor to civilian.

"Unless you get something right away to keep yourself occupied, retirement can drive you right up a wall," was his blunt comment.

The Ohio-born Crow enlisted in the Navy in January 1953, and became the fourth MCPON a little more than 26 years later. In between, his career was primarily in naval aviation. As an aviation structural mechanic, he served in a variety of squadrons, aboard aircraft carriers, and with an aviation detachment in Vietnam. He also was an instructor, a race relations education specialist, an equal opportunity specialist, and a drug/alcohol counselor before he was selected as a force master chief and MCPON.

Today, Tom and his wife, Carol, make their home in San Diego where their nine adult children also live. His first civilian job, with a local university, turned out to be a nice place to work, but too easy to suit him, he said.

"I was used to being very busy, and suddenly I found myself going at about half-speed," he recalled. "I became very frustrated. I began to look around for something a little more demanding, and became interested in management development."

For about a year now, Crow has been a senior industrial relations representative for the Convair Division of General Dynamics in San Diego. He said the job has a broad range; it includes work in employee relations, benefits, personnel management, training and education. Specifically, Crow is one of three members of a team developing and coordinating training programs for Convair's supervisors and managers.

Although he said he's satisfied with his work now, he said he still hasn't shaken free of the Navy's influences.

"It's a completely different world out here, and I miss the service a lot," he admitted. "The Navy was home for 31

years, and I had some difficulty making the adjustment. I still think in a military way, I guess you'd say."

Crow said he found his Navy background invaluable, but he had some trouble convincing civilians of the extent of his occupational knowledge.

"Civilians have a tendency to downgrade military background and experience, but what we do in the Navy in the areas of organizational development and management far surpasses what I've found out here," he said. "We're used to functioning effectively in a structured environment; you just don't find the same attitudes in the civilian work force."

Crow also believes most civilians don't understand military people in other ways.

"Understanding of the sacrifices required of military people is most limited," he said. "Civilians just have no concept of what it takes to be a good military man or woman."

He also said the attitudes of veterans themselves vary extensively.

"It depends on what group you're dealing with," he said. "The Vietnam-era veterans are much more in touch with today's military than the World War II vets. The older vets have never dealt with terms like habitability, quality of life and high tech. Some of them have the perception that military people don't work as hard at what they do, and don't have readily transferable skills [from military to civilian occupations]. Like non-veterans, they won't accept the fact that Navy training is excellent, top-notch."

"One thing many service people overlook is that the views of civilians who haven't served in uniform are greatly affected by those who were in. If they come into contact with a satisfied veteran, they're much more positive about the armed services."

Civilian attitudes notwithstanding, Crow is happy with his choice of a retirement home.

"One of the really nice things about this area is the fact there are so many military facilities available here," he said. "Naval Air Station, Miramar has a fine exchange, for instance. We use [base facilities] a lot, and, except for the medical side of it, it's been a very pleasant experience. Medical facilities are limited. "I've found many

civilian firms these days offer excellent health benefits, better than the military's. I'm amazed the military can't do better, although I realize limitations often aren't the fault of the services."

Although he's a member of FRA branch nine, Crow admitted he hasn't been active in that organization or any other veterans' groups. "It's strictly because of the effort to get my second career off the ground, and I hope to do better," he said. He also said that when the time comes he'll most likely limit his activities to the FRA, which he praised as "number one in terms of representing [sea service] people." He hasn't worn his uniform since retirement, but he contends he can still get into it.

He stressed the need for service people contemplating retirement to ensure they understand what they're getting into.

"[Retirement] is something everyone in the armed services experiences, and you must realize there's a life after the Navy," he said. "There are things you must prepare for, to consider, and to act on. Too many retirees don't. You have to do whatever it takes to get ready for the second career. Planning for changes in attitude and education is vital to making a second career work."

"You have to remember that, for most people, ending a service career isn't really going into retirement. It's really a matter of shifting gears and it has to be done as efficiently as possible." □



Sailors of the Year

Motivated for Achievement

Each year the Navy selects four Sailors of the Year, and each year other sailors wonder what it takes to receive that honor.

This year the answer is easy: motivation.

It's not that these recently promoted chief petty officers talk endlessly about motivation. They don't. Instead, they go one better—they demonstrate it. And that's why any sailor can become Sailor of the Year.

Sailors selected this year come from a shore command, an aircraft carrier, a minesweeper and a reserve unit, and represent diverse ratings.

The 1984 Sailors of the Year are:

EWC(SW) Thomas E. Wilson, Shore Sailor of the Year;

HMC(SW) Michael Sanchez, Atlantic Fleet Sailor of the Year;

AMEC(AW) Thomas J. Thompson, Pacific Fleet Sailor of the Year;

CTRC Thomas A. Shearer, Naval Reserve Sailor of the Year.

When *All Hands* interviewed these four top-performing sailors in Washington, D.C., they seemed more than ready to relax, contemplate the honors they had received and to talk about the Sailor of the Year program, the Navy and themselves.

What does it mean to have been selected Sailor of the Year?

Shearer: It came as quite a shock, and I wasn't prepared for it. I never thought of myself as a Sailor of the Year. It's a great honor and a privilege to represent the Naval Reserve. It's humbling and awesome.

Sanchez: To be selected from among the fine sailors in the Atlantic Fleet is an



honor that is hard to explain. During this coming year, I'm going to do my best to promote the Sailor of the Year program.

Thompson: It's a tremendous experience. I see how important it is to be a proper example. It's not a special kind of a person who achieves this; it's the average person who sets out to do his very best.

Wilson: It's a great individual achievement, but, personally, it's more important to be chosen to represent people in your category. It's been an honor.

How does one become a Sailor of the Year? Is it something you can prepare for or is it luck?

Shearer: I think you must show sustained superior performance throughout your Navy career. Not just now and then and not just at a job you particularly like, but at jobs you don't like. To do that, you have to motivate yourself.

Sanchez: I think it's something you really can't compete for. Before I was selected, I didn't know there was a Sailor of the Year program that went past sailor of the year on the ship. I know there are top-notch sailors out there who could take our places. I think that you have to be consistent—you have to be the same guy Monday morning as you are on Friday afternoon.

Thompson: Consistency and performance are the most important things. Also, people need to expand beyond the boundaries of their career fields, perhaps through off-duty education and civic participation.

Wilson: I never set out to become a Sailor of the Year. I just set out to do the best job possible. I wanted to do what was right for the Navy and right for the country.

You have all recently been advanced to chief petty officer, a position of leadership. What are your thoughts on leadership?

Wilson: There's really no formula for leadership—it's something you learn over

Sailor of the Year Selection Process

The Sailors of the Year program began in 1972 with selections from the Pacific and Atlantic Fleets.

In 1973, the program was expanded to include the Shore Sailor of the Year. The Reserve Sailor of the Year was added in 1982.

The selection process begins when the Commanders in Chief of the Pacific and Atlantic Fleets each appoint a selection board to choose Fleet Sailors of the Year. Nominations for Fleet Sailors of the Year are submitted by unit commanding officers via the chain of command to fleet commanders.

The Chief of Naval Operations con-

venes a selection board to choose the Shore Sailor of the Year. Commander, Naval Reserve Force, appoints a board to select the Reserve Sailor of the Year. Atlantic and Pacific Fleet commanders submit one nominee each.

The four nominating packages are submitted to the Chief of Naval Operations for final approval.

The selection criteria are: commanding officer's estimate of nominee, sustained superior performance, and leadership qualities or heroism during the competitive year.

The Sailor of the Year program is governed by OPNAVINST 1700.10A. □

a period of time by the example of those above you.

Thompson: If I could give advice on leadership, it would be to tell people to take a notebook and write down examples of good and bad leadership and reflect on those examples.

Shearer: You can learn from examples of bad leadership as well as good ones. No one gets to be a good leader without making mistakes.

Sanchez: You should demonstrate leadership through example, and you must be flexible so you can relate to everyone from E-1 to E-9 and officers.

Being chosen Sailor of the Year is a great achievement, but where do you go from here? Have you set any new goals?

Shearer: I would like to apply for a commission in the Naval Reserve and stay in the Navy for 30 years.

Sanchez: I would like to get a commission in the Medical Service Corps, get back into a hospital and work with corpsmen.

Thompson: I'm close to finishing my bachelor's degree, and next year I want to apply for Officer Candidate School. I would like to stay in the aviation field.

Wilson: I have my papers in for Limited Duty Officer, but my ultimate goal is to be the CO of a ship.

Did anyone help you become Sailor of the Year?

Sanchez: I thank my wife of 13 years. When I was overseas, she did several family projects that were included in my Sailor of the Year package.

Thompson: In no way could I have received this recognition without my wife's support. Without her help, I couldn't have dedicated myself completely to my job.

What advice would you like to pass on?

Shearer: If you're in the Navy now, stay in. But if you must get out, be smart enough to get into a reserve program. Be persistent and work hard.

Sanchez: If you want to go for Sailor of the Year, give it your best shot, and don't feel that you must come from a prestigious command to qualify.

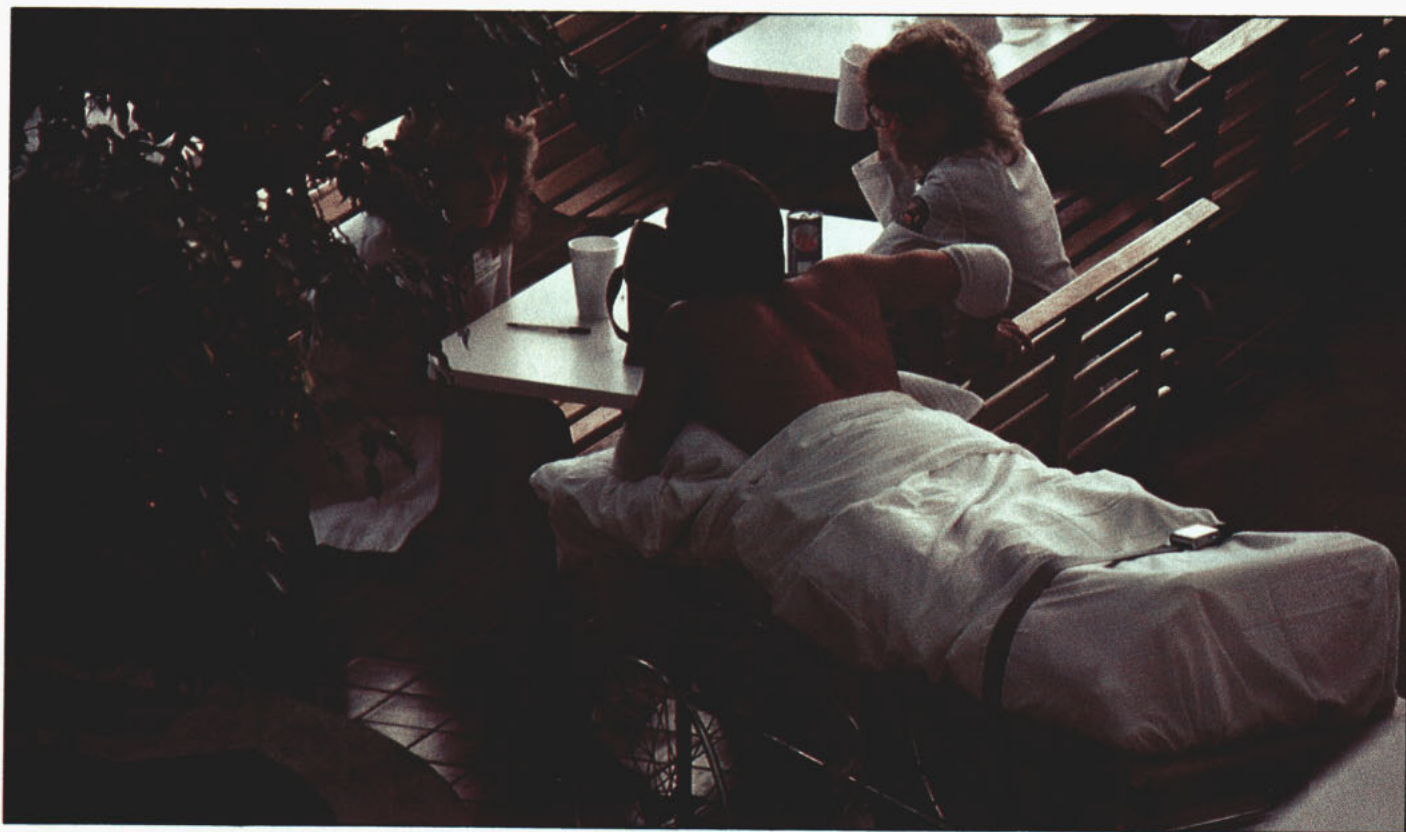
Thompson: To succeed in anything, do the absolute best job you can—it will pay off. More important than the recognition you will receive is the satisfaction that comes from knowing you did your very best.

Wilson: Set realistic goals and write them down. Even if there are a few detours along the way, never lose sight of them. □

Sailors of the Year are (from left) EWC(SW) Thomas E. Wilson, Shore Sailor of the Year; AMEC(AW) Thomas J. Thompson, Pacific Fleet Sailor of the Year; CTRC Thomas A. Shearer, Naval Reserve Sailor of the Year; and HMC(SW) Michael Sanchez, Atlantic Fleet Sailor of the Year. Photo by PH3 Rick Dixon, NavAVCen, Washington, D.C.

—Story by JO1 Dale Hewey





Caring For Our Veterans

172 VA hospitals nationwide treat about 1.3 million veterans annually.

The two patients sitting in the nursing home care unit's dayroom at Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center are a stark contrast to the facility itself.

Louis Jay McGann, a World War II Navy veteran, sits in a thick, comfortable chair that smells of new vinyl. His face is creased with age, his head topped with a bristly crew cut that hasn't gone gray yet. His voice is a harsh growl, made that way from his recent stroke and certainly not helped by decades of smoking 60 cigars a week.

McGann squints through his right eye and looks down through thick glasses at his bandaged left ankle. With effort, he pushes himself up out of the chair, puts all his weight on his right leg and flexes his left knee, trying to help the circula-

tion in that leg. His wheelchair is not far away.

McGann sits back down and his tight-lipped smile almost turns to a grimace. "I got an ulcer on my foot about that big around and about that deep," he says holding his thumb and index finger an inch or so apart. "Doc says I got the knees of a 20 year old. That does me a lot of good...Gonna take the whole leg off I think," he says, pointing to his left leg. He is 64 years old.

Walter Dimery, also a World War II Navy vet, sits in his wheelchair at McGann's left. He stares vacantly into the carpet in front of him only half listening to McGann. His thoughts are elsewhere, perhaps back home in Washington, D.C., where most of his family live. He's been in the Richmond, Va., medical center since April 13. That's when he had his stroke. He is 59 years old.

These two aging but not forgotten vets are in a \$120 million brand-spanking-new hospital with veterans from the

Navy and other branches of the service. They're being cared for in a hospital that's about as modern as they come. The Hunter Holmes McGuire center is the VA's newest medical facility.

The McGuire VA hospital left behind crumbling structures built 40 years ago when it moved into a modern 814-bed, 1.2 million square foot building on Jan. 31, 1983.

The new hospital has a centralized mall where most of the clinics are located. The nursing home care unit, the spinal cord injury unit, rehabilitative medicine, nuclear medicine, dental, pharmacy, prosthetics, orthopedics, radiology, and ambulatory care are on the first floor and easily accessible to patients.

As you walk in this mall that's longer than two football fields, you almost forget you're in a hospital; it looks much like a shopping mall. Brightly colored banners mark the different clinics. There is a large area in the middle of the mall

Opposite page: World War I Navy veteran Wilmer Lennon. Above: A patient from the spinal cord injury unit talks to two hospital staff members on lunch break in the mall.



where patients, staff and visitors can sit and eat the food they buy at the nearby canteen. Sunlight streams in through the skylights and the panes of glass that are the mall's south wall. That distinct, antiseptic hospital smell is missing.

But then you see an elderly patient in a wheelchair speaking to two other patients who are sitting on a bench, their crutches propped nearby. Or a prone figure on a gurney will wheel himself down one of the mall's passageways, the bed sheets conspicuously flat where his legs should be. It's then that the reality of where you are comes screaming back at you.

Louis Jay McGann and Walter Dimery are just two of hundreds of veterans treated each day in this new hospital. Some vets haven't gotten over the struggle, both emotionally and phys-

ically, of being in the hospital for days, weeks, sometimes months—and in some cases, of not being able to do what they once could do. Some of the vets are bitter about the times they spent in the military. All have stories to tell—about the “Great War,” about the second world war, about Vietnam, or about other experiences in the military and the hospital.

McGann and Dimery served in the South Pacific when they were in the Navy.

McGann was a pilot flying missions from USS *Saratoga* (CV 3). He was 21 years old and had recently graduated from the University of Notre Dame, Ind., with a degree in engineering.

Dimery describes the work he did in the Navy as “part storekeeper, part cook, part duckin’ and dodgin’ from

Top left: Kurtis Pannell, a double amputee, tries a set of artificial legs. Left: Prosthetic devices rest against a wall in the physical therapy room. Above: A therapist helps support a patient during a PT session.

those suicide planes.” He watched from just a few miles out at sea as the battles raged for Iwo Jima, Guam and Corregidor. “I was scared to death,” he says. “I had two ships shot out from under me.”

McGann was equally unlucky. He was shot down twice, but wounded only superficially. He entered the Navy the day after his 21st birthday—that also was the day before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.

McGann spent only about two years in the Navy; Dimery about three. When they left the service, they went on to lead active, productive lives. Before the Na-



vy, while at Notre Dame, McGann played guard on the football team and was an extra in the film "Knute Rockne," starring Ronald Reagan. Later, he played five games for the Detroit Lions professional football team. He was a management consultant, worked for Kraft Food Company, was with NBC and worked in sales with a television station in Richmond. He's lived all over the country and has worked all over the world. Dimery settled in Washington, D.C., and worked as a lab technician for the National Institutes of Health for 34 years.

Both were very hardworking men. Now their days are spent waiting for therapy or looking for something to do. It's understandable that they can be something less than enthusiastic when they talk of being in the hospital.

"Physical therapy is a bitch," Dimery says. "They take your leg and bend it back and stretch all the muscles—same way you do when you go to football practice the first day. Lifting weights—three, four, five, six pounds—they feel like a ton. And it's lonesome down in your room," he adds.

Hospital life can be lonely for a veteran whose family lives far away.

But then you meet another patient—like Marine Corps Major Terry Labar. He expects to go before a medical review board soon and be retired with 100 percent disability; he'll soon join the ranks of the veterans after having been a Marine for 15½ years. Not long ago, Labar was the executive officer of the Third Battalion, Eighth Marines of the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit in Beirut, Lebanon, and in

Top: Marine Corps Major Terry Labar, a paraplegic, grimaces with determination while doing a set of dips. Above: His therapy sessions over for the day, Kurtis Pannell meets with two other patients.

charge of embassy security. He survived Beirut unscathed. But while in Haifa, Israel, on a port visit, a speeding automobile went out of control and ran him down. Now he's a paraplegic.

He was going through a physical therapy session one week late in August, still in a back brace—he calls it his "turtle shell"—trying to strengthen his arms and shoulders since he will have to depend on them more than ever now to support his weight and move around.

"It's like anything else," he said. "If you've got the right attitude and you want to make progress, you're going to make it. I was out of the country six



Clockwise from top: Four orderlies take a short break. The sunlit centralized mall at McGuire. This banner marks the rehabilitative medicine unit. Former Navy dental tech Russell Thompson works in the McGuire dental lab.

months when I got hurt and now I'm here and still separated from the family, so my motivation is just getting back to as normal a life as possible and getting back to the family—that's the big priority."

He was going home to Camp Lejeune, N.C., Labor Day weekend, his first time home since February.

"It'll be good to see the old house again. And the battalion is back. All the old guys are back, so it'll be good. I'm looking forward to it."

He gritted his teeth and started working out again. He was sitting on the floor doing sets of dips between two stools.

"They give you all the tools here and they've got some good therapists. I don't think anybody could make any better progress anyplace else. I don't think I could.

"You know, when I look back on where I started and where I am now, it's amazing, it's just amazing what people can do for you and what you can do for yourself with their help. People here—especially in physical therapy—are great. I tell you this is a highlight coming here. I think I'm making good progress and feel pretty good about it."

Labar has come a long way. In a little more than a month he's gone from not even being able to balance himself on the edge of a bed to trying to walk with leg braces.

"If anybody with a T-12 (a type of spinal cord injury) has ever walked with braces, then I'm gonna walk with braces. Hell, I'll be dancing on tables here soon."

Each patient at the McGuire VA hospital, and the stories that are his life, represents only a fraction of the enormous network of VA medical care.

Some 1.3 million inpatients are cared for each year in 172 Veterans Administration hospitals throughout the country. The VA also treats about 16

million eligible veterans annually at 226 outpatient clinics.

Even in the face of those staggering statistics, though, the VA is still trying to stretch the boundaries of its medical care. And the McGuire VA hospital is doing the stretching. It's the only VA hospital in the country certified to perform heart transplants.

Carolyn Medlock, administrative officer in charge of admissions at the center, said she thinks the public might not be aware that that kind of modern medicine is practiced at McGuire and other VA hospitals throughout the country. She said people perceive the VA as a dumping ground for old and disabled veterans. "It's certainly not that," she said. "Although, there are patients, occasionally, who need to be in a VA hospital probably for the rest of their lives."

Even in the nursing home care unit—where McGann and Dimery are and where patients require a lot of attention and where the stay probably is one of the most traumatic—everything is geared toward rehabilitation.

"To me it's a misnomer," Medlock says about the unit. "I think it should be called a nursing care rehab unit, because what we're looking for are people with potential for some sort of rehabilitation. I'm talking more about improving the quality of life—maybe get them to where they can dress themselves again. Certainly our goal isn't for everyone to go out and get a job again, but just to improve their quality of life. It's not for chronic, long-term patients. We hope a patient will be there for six months at most."

The McGuire VA hospital and other VA hospitals are much like any private hospital in any city in the country. In fact there aren't many private hospitals larger than the 814-bed McGuire.

Like other VA hospitals, McGuire has an extensive medical service. Its 280-bed medical service capacity is almost double that of any other unit in the hospital. General medical care is provided as well as treatment for more specific problems such as heart and lung diseases, skin disorders, and diseases of the digestive system, blood, and urinary and intestinal tracts.

The surgical service at McGuire has

“They give you all the tools here and they’ve got some good therapists. I don’t think anybody could make any better progress anyplace else.”

handled more than 3,000 operations a year and by the summer of 1984 had performed 40 heart transplants. The surgical teams also have done heart bypass surgery, kidney transplants, plastic surgery, neurosurgery and orthopedic surgery. There also are coronary, medical and surgical intensive care units.

The spinal cord injury service at McGuire has 120 beds. It is one of only 18 such centers in the VA, but don't let that fool you. According to Gary Garrison, assistant to the director of McGuire VAMC, the VA has the largest spinal cord injury treatment network in the world.

The McGuire VA hospital also provides psychiatric care, neurology, audiology and speech pathology, dietetics—in short, just about every medical problem a veteran might need treated. The only areas of medical care McGuire and other VA hospitals haven't had much to do with are obstetrics, gynecology and geriatrics; but even they are on the upswing now because more women are entering and leaving the military and the veteran population is getting older.

Just being a veteran doesn't necessarily qualify you for VA hospital care.

"There are some eligibility limitations," Medlock says, "and unfortunately, that message isn't getting to all of the military branches, because a person gets the idea that if they're discharged from service, they're automatically eligible for all the services we offer. And that's not the case."

Generally speaking, to receive treatment at a VA hospital you must have an honorable or general discharge. If you're under age 65, you must sign an oath saying you're not covered in a health insurance plan and cannot afford to pay for your own medical treatment; once you're 65 or older that no longer applies. Anyone injured while on active

duty is eligible for care for that injury always and without question.

There is a sense of community among veterans receiving VA medical care. They look out for each other in the hospital and they care for each other, too, sometimes a great deal more than they let on. You could see it in the faces of Dimery and McGann when a buddy in the nursing home care unit joined them in the dayroom. He was going to have his leg amputated the next day. You got the feeling that if either Dimery or McGann could take his place, they would. You could see it in the tears that came to the eyes of one veteran as he watched a new physical therapy patient struggle at the parallel bars trying to keep his balance and walk on artificial legs after having had both legs amputated.

That sense of community extends beyond the patients because veterans aren't only patients at the hospital, they're also staff members. Dr. Charles Lamb, the chief of rehabilitative medicine, is a Navy vet. Michael Sharp, the assistant chief of pharmacy, spent about 1½ years on active duty in the Navy during Vietnam; Roger Thomas, who works in the pharmacy, retired as a chief hospital corpsman after 23 years in the Navy. Bill Lewis, the hospital's chief of operations is a Navy veteran of 10 years. Russell Thompson and Jerry Williams, both retired after 20 years as dental technicians in the Navy, work in the dental lab.

That common bond of military service extends back through the years as well, back to real old-timers like 87-year-old World War I Navy veteran Wilmer Lennon, who also spent 50 years in vaudeville and still cracks one-liners with the best of them. The Navy vets especially look out for each other, but as Thompson says, "It gets so you forget the shades or the color of the uniform."

Any way you look at it, having VA medical care is another Navy benefit, one that is not immediately available, but one that you may be able to use almost anytime after you leave the Navy. It can only be considered a plus. As World War II Navy vet Walter Dimery said, "You all got it damn good now."

—Story and photos by JO1 Gary Hopkins



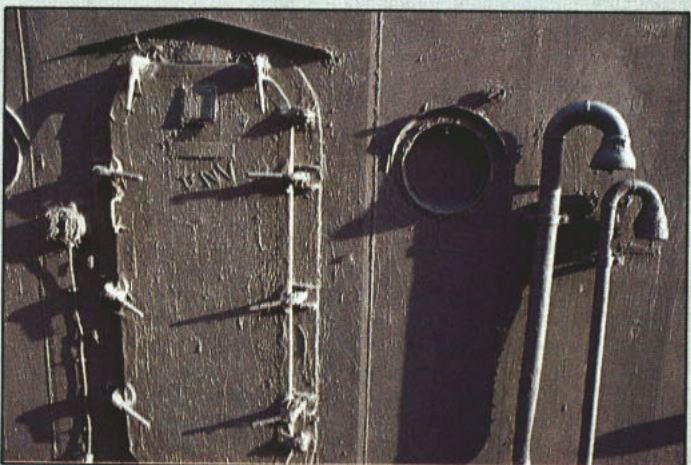
WISCONSIN

A Forgotten Veteran

The battleship *Wisconsin* (BB 64), commissioned April 16, 1944, is a combat veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict. The ship was placed in reserve in 1948 and 1958. Today *Wisconsin* stands idle at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard awaiting reactivation.

—Photos by PH2 Perry E. Thorsvik





Mighty Mo Rejoins Fleet

Story and photos by PH1 Bob Weissleder

Navy men and women are not the only veterans. Mothballed for nearly 30 years, the Navy's four *Iowa*-class battleships, second largest in the world, are veterans, too, and they've been recalled to duty.

USS *New Jersey* (BB 62) was first, followed by USS *Iowa* (BB 61). *Wisconsin* (BB 64) awaits reactivation at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.

Missouri (BB 63) is the third battleship to leave its reserve berthing to join the fleet.

Missouri is not the ship it once was—not yet. Unlike the sailors who run it, the battleship needed more than a new set of clothes and simple familiarization training. Its hull is worn and rusted by weather. Its engines are inoperative.

For its rebirth, the feared battlewagon, whose deck witnessed the Japanese surrender Sept. 2, 1945, was towed from its mothball home at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash., to the naval shipyard at Long Beach, Calif. Its slow, steady pace through the Pacific was maintained by the four throbbing 6,000 horsepower engines of the salvage ship USS *Beaufort* (ATS 2), not by its own four 53,000 horsepower main engines.

It will receive state-of-the-art electronics and missiles at Long Beach to complement the massive 16-inch guns.

"When I heard about this tow, I vol-

unteered," said Chief Petty Officer Don Heath. "This ship is a part of history, and I've grown up with her.

"I'll always remember seeing 'Mighty Mo' standing tall among her retired

cousins," said the 20-year veteran who grew up in the Bremerton area. "I'd stare at those giant guns every time we drove by in our old 1938 Buick on our way to church. I was a puny 7-year-old



Right: Salvage ship USS Beaufort (ATS 2) rendezvous' with Missouri (BB 63) at the entrance to Puget Sound to take the battleship in tow, relieving four commercial tugboats. A wire cable pulls Missouri's heavy tow chain through roller blocks on Beaufort's stern. Top right: Crewmen aboard Beaufort secure the battleship's 8-ton tow chain for the 1,200-mile tow to the Long Beach Naval Shipyard.

kid then, but it left a lasting impression on me."

Rigging the ship for sea meant three weeks of 12- to 16-hour days and nights for the 20 members of the hand-picked skeleton crew.

"We spliced steel cable and nylon line, removed a 15-ton anchor and rigged its chain for tow," said Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth Redd, a 25-year veteran from Atlanta. "We ordered and hauled aboard our own food, water, refrigerators, microwave ovens, wrenches and electrical generators. We strung lights and cables down seven decks. On the last day in port we were still bringing block ice down the pier."



Crowds lined the pier and fireboats sprayed water as tugboats eased *Misouri* away from its berth and out of Puget Sound. Bands played "Anchors Aweigh," and fireworks lit the rainy afternoon sky.

"It left one large lump in my throat," said Heath.

As the tug eased "Mighty Mo" toward the Pacific, the crew dined on TV dinners, then grabbed their sleeping bags; morning would come early.

"Our living conditions were kind of neat," said Engineman Third Class John Morelos from Sanger, Calif. "It was like a luxury camping trip. Each of us took a stateroom where Admiral Nimitz' staff used to stay. We just tossed our sleeping bags on a bunk and crashed."

At dawn, *Beaufort* eased into position to take over the tow, and the crew quickly fell into its regular routine of work and watches.



Iowa Gets New Marine Guard Chief

By Staff Sgt. Becki Wass

"I'd give my eyeteeth for that duty!" said one Marine. He'd just heard about Marine Gunnery Sergeant Angel Castro Jr.'s orders to sea aboard the reactivated battleship USS *Iowa* (BB 61).

Castro, a chief drill instructor at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C., is scheduled to report to *Iowa* this fall as guard chief of a 44-Marine security contingent.

"Navy people say there's a five- to seven-year wait to be selected for duty aboard a battleship," he said, "so I was really surprised when I was selected."

The Marines serve the ship's captain, and since the *Iowa* originally was fitted out as a flagship, they also are available to embarked flag officers. Marines will man a 5-inch/38 gun mount during general quarters.

Castro, a Bronx, N.Y., native, said his

experience as a drill instructor will help him aboard ship with ceremonies, special events and visiting dignitaries.

Special duty isn't new to the 35-year-old Castro, who joined the Marines in September 1968. He spent 2½ years with the Royal Marine Commandos as a platoon sergeant in an Arctic Mountain Warfare Company, 13 months in Vietnam, and two years as a platoon guide and sergeant of the guard in the Republic of the Philippines.

"Everything I planned to do, I've done—and more," he said. "This assignment is the icing on the cake; a chance to work and live on board a World War II vintage battleship."

Staff Sgt. Wass is with the public affairs office, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

Mighty Mo

Hourly roving patrols probed the battleship deck by deck, seeking out fire or flooding hazards, and Heath organized daily fire drills.

"It paid off," said Redd. "These people learned how to rig and release a tow and set fire party details. They learned in weeks what should take months.

"The first fire drill took 28 minutes," he said just before the tow began. "Now they take seven minutes."

The small crew also stood watch on *Missouri's* bow to listen for unusual noises that might signal a problem with the tow.

"It was cold out there in the middle of the night," said Seaman Beverly Stokes, 19, from Ulster Park, N.Y. "I'd bundle up in my sleeping bag with a cup of hot chocolate and think warm thoughts."

Missouri's arrival in Long Beach marked a new beginning for the ship, but an end to a special experience for the crew who manned it during the transit.

"We worked long and hard," said Stokes. "But we kept our sense of humor and made each other laugh. We had our own special spirit."

Morelos echoed her feelings.

"No one minded the work," he said. "Sure, we put in long hours, but there was a big job to do. I think it's important to bring the battleships back. They provide a good security blanket. Not only can they take a hit, they really dish it out, too."

For Heath, after growing up in "Mighty Mo's" shadow, it seemed fitting that he help bring it back to the active fleet.

"Just think," he said, "I'm standing in the same place Admiral Nimitz and General MacArthur once stood. The crew who takes over this ship will have a right to be proud of her." □

PH1 Weissleder is assigned to the mobile photographic unit, Pacific Fleet Audiovisual Command, NAS North Island, San Diego.

Top: HTC Don Heath uses hand signals to communicate with his crew. Bottom: SN Beverly Stokes splices line aboard the battleship.



Women Veterans Making Greater Use Of Their Benefits

By Bonner Day

Women will find it easier to take advantage of their veterans benefits because of the increased attention the Veterans Administration is giving their unique requirements.

“Research by the VA disclosed that women veterans were passing up millions of dollars in medical, education, housing, loan guarantees and other veterans benefits.”

Female veterans are growing in numbers and in proportion to the total veteran population because of increased enrollment of women in the armed forces. They now account for about 4 percent of the nation's approximately 28.2 million veterans.

Research by the VA disclosed that women veterans were passing up millions of dollars in medical, education, housing loan guarantees and other veterans benefits. In the summer of 1983, the administrator of veterans affairs, Harry N. Walters, established a special advisory committee of 15 women and three men to

“The female veteran population is expected to increase another 100,000 in the next 15 years and make up more than 5 percent of the total veteran population.”

find ways to help women take advantage of their benefits.

As a result of one committee's recommendation, special counselors are now helping female veterans at VA medical facilities. Earlier this year, the VA's 172 medical centers were directed to provide inpatient and outpatient gynecologic services for female veterans as a result of an assessment of female health services at the centers and 227 outpatient clinics.

Several studies on the health of female veterans are under way. The VA has increased its capacity to treat women through sharing arrangements with two Department of Defense hospitals and with private hospitals in six cities. New hospitals and other medical facilities, and renovations and additions to old ones now take female health-care requirements into consideration.

“The fastest growing group of female veterans—16 percent of the total—are those who have served since Vietnam.”

The agency also has commissioned Louis Harris and Associates to determine why fewer female than male veterans use their benefits.

Army, Navy and Air Force nurses traditionally made up the bulk of the female veteran population, but the proportion of women from the services is increasing. Veteran status has been given to 13 groups of women by the Department of Defense since 1979, including the Women's Air Force Service, World War I female telephone operators and the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

“The VA is better prepared today to serve female veterans as a result of its greater emphasis on insuring that women know their benefits and how to take advantage of them.”

The female veteran population is expected to increase another 100,000 in the next 15 years and make up more than 5 percent of the total veteran population.

The fastest growing group of female veterans—16 percent of the total—are those who have served since Vietnam. These newer women veterans differ from previous generations. They are taking more traditional male jobs and when they leave service, they are much more demanding of their right to federal benefits. It's a trend just being felt.

There is no doubt that female veterans are receiving only a fraction of the amount of money to which they're entitled of the \$25 billion spent annually on veterans benefits. This loss to women is significant in value and in impact to society. The time limits for some benefits have expired. Others still are available and could be helping thousands of women today.

The VA is better prepared today to serve female veterans as a result of its greater emphasis on insuring that women know their benefits and how to take advantage of them.

This new effort is paying off, too. VA benefits counselors and medical administrators report more female veterans than ever are using veteran benefits. □

Day works in the Office of Public and Consumer Affairs, Veterans Administration.



Navy Medal Of Honor Roll

Distinguished Veterans All...

The Medal of Honor was established in 1861, and since then 738 Navy men have received the nation's highest award for military valor.

The award, presented by the president in the name of the Congress, isn't earned easily. A candidate must be a member of the U.S. armed forces, distinguish himself conspicuously by gallant and intrepid action against an enemy of the United States; serve in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or serve with friendly foreign forces in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. The individual's actions involving risk of life must be proved by

incontestable evidence from at least two eyewitnesses, must clearly distinguish gallantry beyond the call of duty from lesser forms of bravery, and must be the type of deed that, if not done, would not subject the individual to justified criticism.

Until August 1956, the Navy could and did award Medals of Honor for bravery and valor during disasters unique to the naval profession, including submarine rescues, boiler explosions and turret fires.

Here are the 115 Navy men who have been awarded the Medal of Honor since World War I. An () indicates second award; a (+) indicates posthumous award.*

Antrim, Richard N., Cmdr.	World War II	Cann, Tedford H., Seaman	World War I	+ Corry, William M. Jr., Lt. Cmdr.	1920-40
Badders, William, Chief Machinist's Mate	1920-40	Capodanno, Vincent R., Lt.	Vietnam	Covington, Jesse W., Ship's Cook 3rd Class	World War I
Balch, John Henry, Pharmacist's Mate 1st Class	World War I	+ Caron, Wayne M., Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class	Vietnam	Crandall, Orson L., Chief Boatswain's Mate	1920-40
Ballard, Donald E., Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class	Vietnam	Charette, William R., Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class	Korean conflict	+ Cromwell, John P., Capt.	World War II
+ Benfold, Edward C., Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class	Korean conflict	+ Cholister, George R., Boatswain's Mate 1st Class	1920-40	David, Albert LeRoy, Lt.j.g.	World War II
Bennett, Floyd, Machinist	1920-40			Davis, George F., Cmdr.	World War II
+ Bennion, Mervyn S., Capt.	World War II			+ Dealey, Samuel D., Cmdr.	World War II
+ Bigelow, Elmer C., Watertender 1st Class	World War II			+ Dewert, Richard D., Hospital Corpsman	Korean conflict
Boone, Joel T., Lt. (MC)	World War I			+ Drexler, Henry C., Ensign	1920-40
Bradley, Willis W. Jr., Cmdr.	World War I			Eadie, Thomas, Chief Gunner's Mate	1920-40
Breault, Henry, Torpedoman 2nd Class	1920-40			Edwards, Walter A., Lt. Cmdr.	1920-40
Bulkeley, John D., Lt. Cmdr.	World War II			+ Estocin, Michael J., Capt.	Vietnam
Bush, Robert E., Hospital Apprentice 1st Class	World War II			+ Evans, Ernest E., Cmdr.	World War II
Byrd, Richard E. Jr., Cmdr.	1920-40			Finn, John W., Lt.	World War II
+ Callaghan, Daniel J., Rear Adm.	World War II			+ Flaherty, Francis C., Ensign	World War II
				Fluckey, Eugene B., Cmdr.	World War II
				Fuqua, Samuel G., Capt.	World War II

**“...(During) an attempt to...
rescue (a downed Marine avi-
ator)...his unarmed and vul-
nerable aircraft...crashed....
He led his crew and compan-
ion in evading the enemy
forces for nine days and
steadfastly refused to aid his
captors in any manner....”**

John K. Koelsch, Lieutenant junior grade
Korean conflict, July 3, 1951

Distinguished Veterans All...

Gary, Donald A., World War II
Lt.j.g.
+ Gilmore, Howard World War II
W., Cmdr.
Gordon, Nathan G., World War II
Lt.
Graves, Ora, World War I
Seaman
Hall, William E., World War II
Lt.j.g.
+ Halyburton, William World War II
D. Jr., Pharmacist's
Mate 2nd Class
Hammann, Charles H., World War I
Ensign
+ Hammerberg, Owen World War II
F.P., Boatswain's
Mate 2nd Class
+ Hammond, Francis C., Korean
Hospital Corpsman conflict
Hayden, David E., World War I
Hospital Apprentice
1st Class
Herring, Rufus G., World War II
Lt.
+ Hill, Edwin J., World War II
Chief Boatswain's Mate
Huber, William R., 1920-40
Machinist's Mate
Hudner, Thomas J. Jr., Korean
Lt.j.g. conflict
+ Hutchins, Carlton B., 1920-40
Lt.
Hutchins, Johnnie D. World War II
Seaman 1st Class
+ Ingram, Osmond K., World War I
Gunner's Mate
1st Class
Izac, Edouard V.M., World War I
Lt.
+ Jones, Herbert C., World War II
Ensign

"...Resolved to make himself a symbol of resistance, regardless of personal sacrifice...deliberately inflicted a near-mortal wound to his person...rather than capitulate...."

James B. Stockdale, Rear Admiral
Vietnam, Sept. 4, 1969

"...Constantly and unhesitatingly moved from one casualty to another....With (plasma) bottle held high in one hand...drew his pistol with the other and fired...until his ammunition was expended....Seizing a discarded carbine, he fired...accounting for six of the enemy despite his own serious wounds...."

Robert E. Bush,
Hospital Apprentice First Class
World War II, May 2, 1945

Kelley, Thomas G., Vietnam
Lt. Cmdr.
+ Keppler, Reinhardt World War II
J., Boatswain's Mate
1st Class
Kerrey, Joseph R., Vietnam
Lt.j.g.
+ Kidd, Isaac C., World War II
Rear Adm.
+ Kilmer, John E., Korean
Hospital Corpsman conflict
+ Koelsch, John K., Korean
Lt.j.g. conflict
Lassen, Clyde E., Vietnam
Lt.
+ Lester, Fred F., World War II
Hospital Apprentice
1st Class
Lyle, Alexander G., World War I
Lt. Cmdr.
MacKenzie, John, World War I
Chief Boatswain's Mate
Madison, James J., World War I
Lt. Cmdr.
McC Campbell, David, World War II
Cmdr.
McCandless, Bruce, World War II
Cmdr.
McCool, Richard M. World War II
Jr., Lt.
McDonald, James H., 1920-40
Chief Metalsmith
McGonagle, William L., Vietnam
Capt.

McGunigal, Patrick, World War I
Shipfitter 1st Class
Mihalowski, John, 1920-40
Torpedoman 1st Class
Norris, Thomas R., Vietnam
Lt.
O'Callahan, Joseph World War II
T., Cmdr.
O'Hare, Edward H., World War II
Lt.
O'Kane, Richard H., World War II
Cmdr.
+ Ormsbee, Francis E. World War I
Jr., Chief Machinist's
Mate
+ Osborne, Weedon, World War I
E., Lt.j.g.
+ Ouellet, David G., Vietnam
Seaman
+ Parle, John J., World War II
Ensign
Peterson, Oscar V., World War II
Chief Watertender
Petty, Orlando H., World War I
Lt. (MC)
Pharris, Jackson C., World War II
Lt.
Pierce, Francis J., World War II
Pharmacist's Mate
1st Class
+ Powers, John J., World War II
Lt.
Preston, Arthur M., World War II
Lt.
Ramage, Lawson P., World War II
Cmdr.
+ Ray, David R., Vietnam
Hospital Corpsman
2nd Class
+ Reeves, Thomas J., World War II
Radio Electrician
+ Ricketts, Milton E., World War II
Lt.
+ Rooks, Albert H., World War II
Capt.
Ross, Donald Kirby, World War II
Machinist
Ryan, Thomas J., 1920-40
Ensign
Schmidt, Oscar Jr., World War I
Chief Gunner's Mate
Schonland, Herbert E., World War II
Cmdr.
+ Scott, Norman, World War II
Rear Adm.
+ Scott, Robert R., World War II
Machinist's Mate
1st Class
+ Shields, Marvin, G., Vietnam

Construction Mechanic 3rd Class		+ Van Voorhis, Bruce, World War II A., Lt. Cmdr.	
Siegel, John O., Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class	World War I	Wahlen, George E., Pharmacist's Mate 2nd Class	World War II
Stockdale, James B., Rear Adm.	Vietnam	+ Ward, James R., Seaman 1st Class	World War II
Street, George L. III, Cmdr.	World War II	*Williams, Jack, Pharmacist's Mate 3rd Class	World War II
Sullivan, Daniel A. J., Ensign	World War I	Williams, James E., Boatswain's Mate 1st Class	Vietnam
Thornton, Michael E., Seaman	Vietnam	+ Willis, John H., Pharmacist's Mate 1st Class	World War II
+ Tomich, Peter, Chief Watertender	World War II	Young, Cassin, Cmdr.	World War II
Upton, Frank M., Quartermaster	World War I		
Van Valkenburgh, Franklin, Capt.	World War II		

Information for this article comes from "Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1978," by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, United States Senate, Feb. 14, 1979.

Copies of the book are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. □

—Compiled by JOC B. A. Cornfeld

Medal of Honor recipient James B. Stockdale, center, now a retired vice admiral, chats with guests after the ceremony at the White House, March 4, 1976. Lt. Gen. Samuel J. Jaskilka, also retired, is at right. Photo by Dave Wilson.



Chapel Of Four Chaplains

The Chapel of Four Chaplains is not one of those typical little white buildings sitting quietly in the countryside. It's a gray building, on a street corner in Philadelphia, and you could walk right by without even noticing it.

What makes this chapel special is not the ground it's on, nor its size or color, but the story behind it. The Chapel of Four Chaplains is a shrine dedicated to the memory of four World War II chaplains who gave their lives so that others might live. This is their story.

It was one of the worst sea disasters of World War II.

Just after midnight on Feb. 3, 1943, the American troopship S.S. *Dorchester* was cruising in the North Atlantic en route to Greenland. Without warning, a Nazi torpedo sliced through the black water and pierced the ship's hull—exploding in the boiler room.

Men below decks were killed instantly. The ship took on water rapidly; panicky crew members scurried about in the dark searching for life vests and rafts.

Many were helpless from the shock of the attack and their fear of plunging into the cold water. But the four chaplains on board remained calm. They distributed life vests, helped men into life boats, and encouraged others to abandon ship.

When there were no more life jackets, the chaplains gave up their own to four soldiers who had none. The four men of God were last seen standing on the ship's heaving deck with arms linked—each ut-

tering his own prayer as the ship went down. They had made the supreme sacrifice by giving their lives so that others might live.

In his book "Chapel of Four Chaplains," Dr. Walter White quotes a young *Dorchester* engineer who had been rescued after several hours in the water.

"They quieted the panic, forced men 'frozen' on the rail toward the boats and over the side, helped men adjust life jackets and at last gave away their own. They themselves had no chance without life jackets. I swam away from the ship and

turned to watch. The flares now lighted everything. The bow came up high and she slid under. The last I saw, the chaplains were up there praying for the safety of the men. They had done everything they could. I did not see them again."

The four chaplains were Father John Patrick Washington, Reverend Clark Vandersall Poling, Reverend George Lansing Fox, and Rabbi Alexander David Goode. More than 600 men died that fateful night, but some men lived because of the courage of these four chaplains.

Exactly eight years later, President Harry



Lower left: A life-size mural depicting the sinking of the troopship S.S. *Dorchester* in 1943. Right: A bronze plaque in the chapel's entrance introduces visitors to the story of the four chaplains. Below: (left to right) Jewish and Catholic altars, two of three on a revolving turntable, used separately during worship services.

S. Truman dedicated the Chapel of Four Chaplains. He said:

"This chapel commemorates something more than an act of bravery or courage. It commemorates a great act of faith in God. The four chaplains in whose memory this shrine was built were not required to give their lives as they did. They gave their lives without being asked. When their ship was sinking, they handed out all the life preservers that were available and then took off their own and gave them away in order that four other men might be saved."

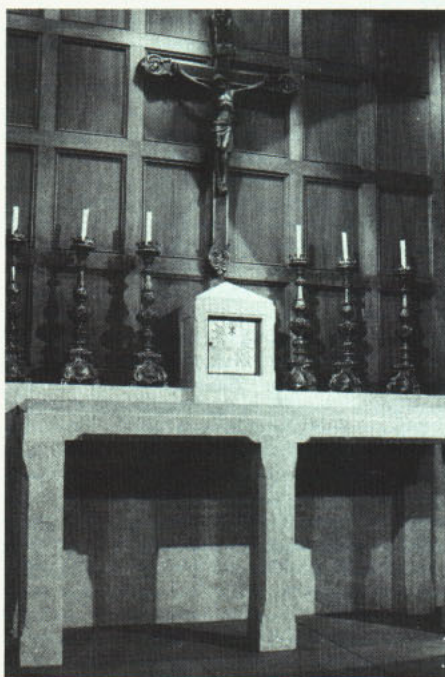
The chapel is an interfaith shrine with three separate altars—Catholic, Jewish and Protestant—mounted on an electrically controlled revolving turntable. Only one altar is visible at one time so members of each faith can worship separately.

The sanctuary is dominated by a mural depicting the sinking of *Dorchester*. The mural is 12 feet wide by 20 feet high. The chaplains are painted life-size and are shown helping the men into life vests while water swirls on deck.

Opposite the mural is a large bronze plaque inscribed with the names of the more than 600 men who lost their lives when the ship sank.

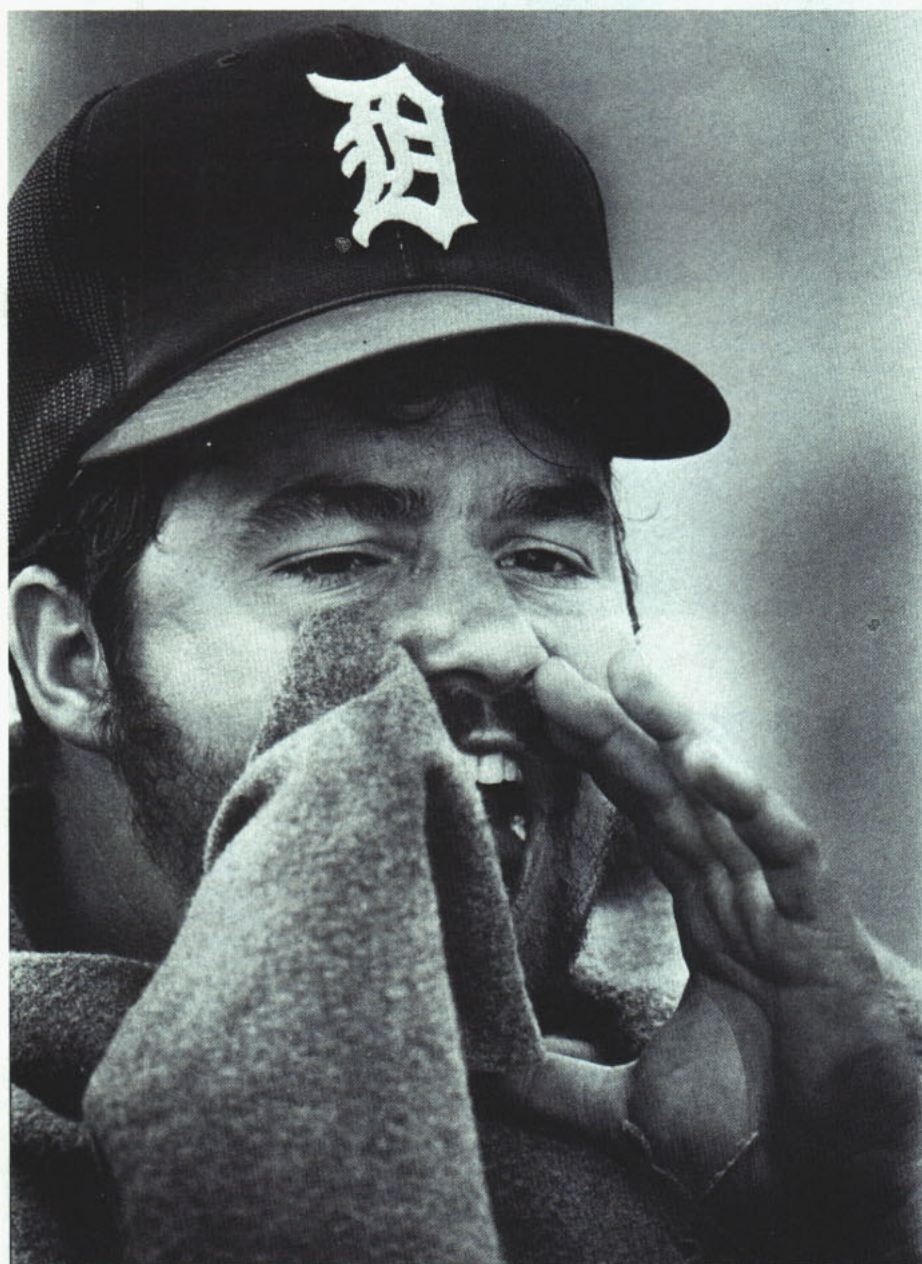
Church services are held Thursday through Sunday in the main auditorium, which can accommodate 200 people. The chapel is open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and tour groups are welcome with advance notice.

—Story and photos by JO2 Russell L. Coons



Softball Players Celebrate New Record

Story and photos by PH1 David B. Loveall



Above: AT3 Terrence Suyak, 21, of Alden, Mich., cheers his team through the early morning innings. Right: SN Laura Futrell leaps with excitement as the champagne party begins.

The game was for softball die-hards and Navy Relief.

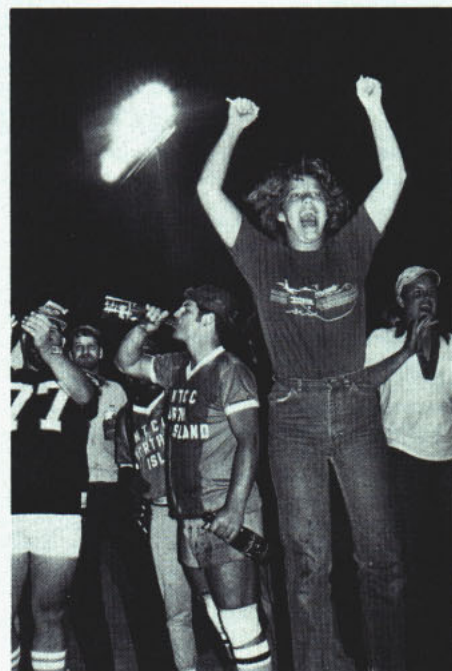
It was the bottom of the 498th inning, two outs and a full count on the batter.

"Come on, you can do it. We're only 190 runs down," the "A" team coach yelled. Enthusiasm swept the bench, and both teams chattered away.

The pitch, the swing, a fly ball to shallow center caught by the roving fielder for the third out. The teams switched positions for the 996th time.

In the end, no one really cared about the final score—825 to 705—only that the game was longer than a 92-hour game at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., in 1983 and thus may merit inclusion in the Guinness Book of World Records.

For Navy Relief, it meant more than \$1,200 from donations and sponsorship of players. More than 60 sailors and Marines



from North Island Naval Air Station, San Diego, and the nearby Coronado Naval Amphibious Base took part.

The grueling marathon began at North Island June 2 and, after 90 pulled muscles, 10 score books, several aggravated "football" knees, one broken nose and 101 hours, it hobbled to its end four days later.

Players pitched tents beside their dug-outs to grab precious minutes of sleep between innings and so they could rotate into line-ups at moment's notice in the wee hours of the morning. Fielders found themselves suddenly drenched by a subterranean, automatic sprinkler system that continued to water them periodically.

Seaman Laura Futrell, 19, of Scituate, Mass., sporting a large bandage on her broken nose, the skin around her eyes turning black, said, "It only hurts when I sneeze. I'm going to stick it out at least until the record's broken in 36 more hours."

Storekeeper Second Class John Wheeler, 32, said, "I'm still hitting and pitching after 25 hours straight and I'm

working toward 32. My feet hurt but the rest of me feels pretty good."

Navy airman Bill Purcell, the "A" team coach, explained, "I saw people go until they nearly passed out. There was a point about 3 o'clock one morning when I didn't think we'd make it, but my hat's off to these dedicated people. This record never would have been broken without their enthusiasm."

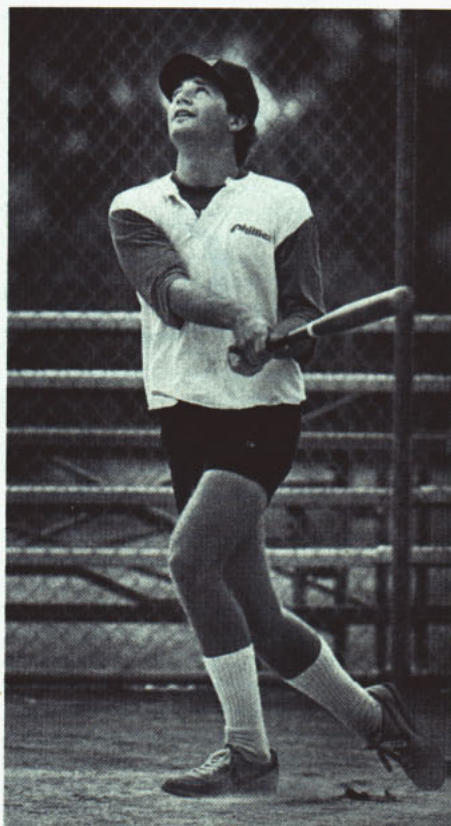
As the hours passed, time ran out for the "As," despite a determined, last-ditch drive.

At 9:08 p.m., Tuesday, June 6, the record was broken. Gloves flew in the air, and champagne corks popped to celebrate setting a new record.

Guinness please copy.

PHI Loveall is a photojournalist assigned to Fleet Audiovisual Command, Pacific

Right: Civilian Derek Arthur, son of Rear Adm. Stan R. Arthur, Commander Carrier Group Seven, tallies another hit for the "A" team. Below: More than 60 servicemen and women rounded the bases to tab nearly 1,500 runs through drizzle, injuries and darkness.



EOD Teams Clean Out Canyons



Residents of Tierrasanta, a San Diego suburb, have long known that the canyons surrounding their community contained old bullets and shells. Children playing in the canyons often brought the rusted ammunition home.

But what once were playthings to area youngsters became deadly last December when two 8-year-old boys were killed when an old artillery shell exploded.

The community reacted with grief and shock. There was also common agreement that ordnance in the canyons had to be eliminated. The city of San Diego turned to the Navy for help.

In response, Commodore "Hoagy" Charmichael, Commander, Naval Base San Diego, arranged for Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Three, based at the Naval Amphibious Base in Coronado, to sweep the area.

The sweep teams, composed of 10 non-EOD personnel (sweepers) and two EOD technicians, were under the field direction of Chief Warrant Officer Larry D. Cargill. They worked seven hours a day, Monday through Thursday, for 14 weeks, using Friday for equipment maintenance and writing reports.

The sweepers, all volunteers, came from the Transient Personnel Unit, Naval Station San Diego; Seabee Unit 405, Naval Station San Diego; and the Ninth Marines

at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base, Calif. In all, 164 military people helped.

In 14 weeks, the Navy spent approximately \$30,000 in sweeping 331 acres.





Left: Sweepers with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Three search Tierrasanta, a San Diego suburb, for unexploded ordnance. Photo by PH3 Ricky Bradford, NAS Miramar, San Diego. Bottom, left: Jean Farb Middle School pupils check ordnance displayed during school ceremonies honoring the Navy sweepers, who received the button (below) handmade by Serra Junior-Senior High pupils. Photos by PH1 David Loveall, FltAVCom-Pac.



The sweep teams recovered 202 pieces of ordnance. Each week they found 17 to 24 pieces; only one week went by when they found nothing.

Tierrasanta, a well-kept, middle-income neighborhood about 15 miles north-

east of downtown San Diego, encompasses about 2,500 acres.

The area was formerly part of Camp Elliott, a military training base during World War II. About 25,000 people live there now; 10,000 of them in Navy hous-

ing in Murphy Canyon and the rest in single-family, privately owned homes and town houses.

To start the community action plan which focused on the sweep, the fire department conducted an education program in the schools to advise children on safe procedures to follow should they discover ordnance. The city provided a mobile trailer which served as the base of operations for EOD Mobile Unit Three and the sweep teams.

Most of the 331 acres were searched visually, instead of with electronic ordnance detectors, because of the difficult terrain. The terrain ranged from flat to almost vertical, from clear to covered with low, dense undergrowth.

It was hot, dangerous work, but the only injuries were sprained ankles, scratches from trees and bushes, and heat exhaustion. The sweep teams saw from four to six rattlesnakes a day.

Local groups brought cookies, doughnuts, sodas and pizzas for the sweepers. Sometimes children would offer to get sodas for them. Boy Scouts painted signs of appreciation, and the Tierrasanta schoolchildren officially thanked the Navy in a special ceremony.

San Diego City Councilman Dick Murphy was master of ceremonies. The children performed a variety of skits and presented handmade mementos to sweeper participants. It was their way of saying thanks. □

Bloody Pacific Battle

“Forgotten Battle” Of Peleliu Remembered

Story and photos by PH1 Fel Barbante



Forty years after “one of the bloodiest battles of the Pacific War,” USS *Peleliu* (LHA 5) visited its tiny namesake island to dedicate a memorial honoring the 1,252 Marines who were killed in action during the battle of Peleliu.

Peleliuans, sailors and Marines honored the dead as 31st Marine Amphibious Unit riflemen rendered a 21-gun salute during the ceremony. Saluting their fallen comrades were Peleliu battle veterans retired Marine Corps Master Sergeant Everett Shults, retired Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sergeant Bill Becker, retired Army First Sergeant Wilbert Brown, and former Navy Hospital Corpsman Sammy Ray.



Also attending the dedication were Palau's Vice President Alphonso Oiterong, Peleliu Governor Yukio Shmull and Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., Commander in Chief, Pacific.

"This was something I looked forward to for a long time," Shults said. "I lost a lot of good friends and fought that battle many a night when I couldn't sleep. I was determined to have a memorial for our dead." Shults had a major part in coordinating efforts to erect a Marine Corps memorial to join the 81st Army and Japanese memorials already on the island.

Opposite page: USS Peleliu (LHA 5) visits its namesake island to honor World War II Marines killed in action there. Bottom: First Marine Division memorial is a reminder of those who fought and died. Center: A young Peleliuan wears a ball cap from his island's namesake ship. Below: A gutted U.S. tank lies where it was destroyed 40 years ago.



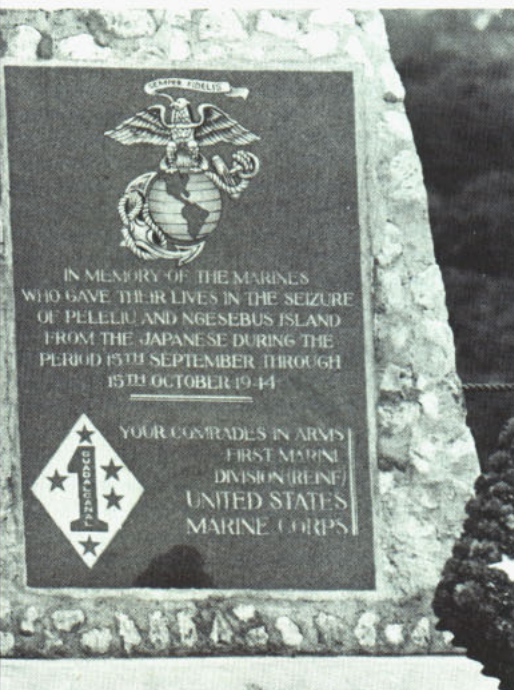
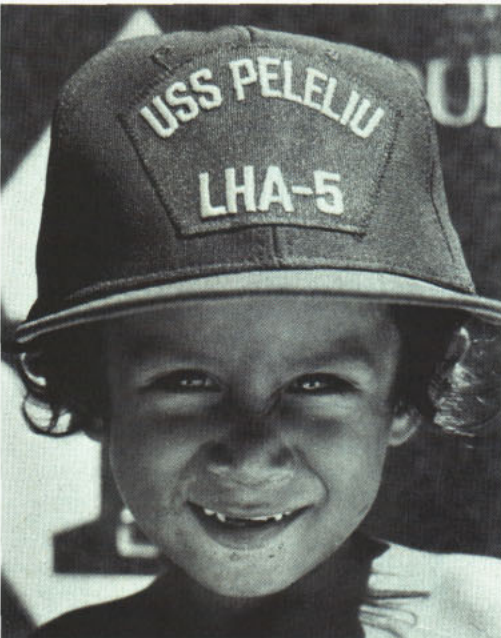
The battle was fought from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, 1944. The scars of war have since been covered by jungle growth. "I couldn't recognize the place," said Becker. "Everything is overgrown. During the battle, you could see from one end of the island to the other." Rusting tanks and unexploded ordnance are still commonplace on the 20-square-mile island.

The Peleliuans—who live on an island in the Palau island chain about 500 miles east of the Philippines—had been anxiously awaiting the ship's arrival since its commissioning in 1980. "This is the biggest thing that's happened here since the battle," said an islander known simply as Willie. Signs in the main village of Imelchol read "Floating Peleliu Island Joins the Motherland!"

To celebrate the ship's visit, many of the island's 900 people took time from fishing and grinding limestone—their main sources of income. Schools were closed so children and their parents could enjoy a cookout given by sailors and Marines and tour *Peleliu*.

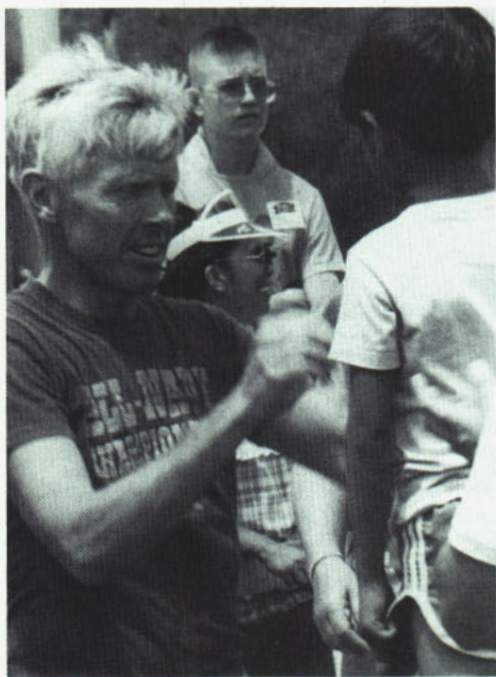
Although *Peleliu* has returned to its home port of Long Beach, Calif., the newly erected Marine Corps memorial remains to affirm that the islanders, the veterans of the battle and the crew of *Peleliu* have not forgotten the sacrifice made by those who died in the bloody battle of Peleliu. □

PH1 Barbante is attached to Seventh Fleet Public Affairs Representative, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.



A National Leader

"Being in good physical condition is important to every Navy man and woman. You never know when you will go from behind your desk to the front line. Too many times I've seen people called on to do a task and too soon their tongue is on their shoes."



Captain John A. Butterfield, commanding officer of Naval Air Station, Agana, Guam, is one of the U.S. Jaycees' Healthy American Fitness Leaders of 1984.

He was honored because of his efforts to improve the physical well-being of people around the world. Butterfield coordinated physical fitness and training for the Department of Defense and helped implement a DOD physical fitness and weight control directive. He also has founded running clubs and speaks at fitness clinics and seminars.

Butterfield, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., helped establish a close relationship between the President's Council on Physical

Fitness and Sports and the Department of Defense.

Butterfield was in Washington, D.C., to receive the Healthy American Fitness Leader award. *All Hands* interviewed him to learn more about his physical fitness philosophy.

What got you interested in physical fitness?

I've always been a guy who loved sports and recreation. Since my early Navy days, I usually volunteered to be the athletic officer. I came back from Vietnam overweight and not feeling well physically. It was my good fortune to go to the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk where they were really promoting the aerobics program. That got me started jogging, which is the heart of aerobics. Not only did I lose weight, but I felt better—and I wanted to share that with people. Since the early 1970s, I've tried to emphasize the importance of physical fitness.

What is the relationship between fitness and readiness?

Fitness is tied to readiness so strongly that it's hard for me to think that people would question it. If Navy people take care of themselves—if they have more stamina, more endurance, more strength—then, when we come to tough times, the physically fit will last longer and work more efficiently with less chance of accident. The physically fit are more productive people and *that translates directly into increased readiness.*

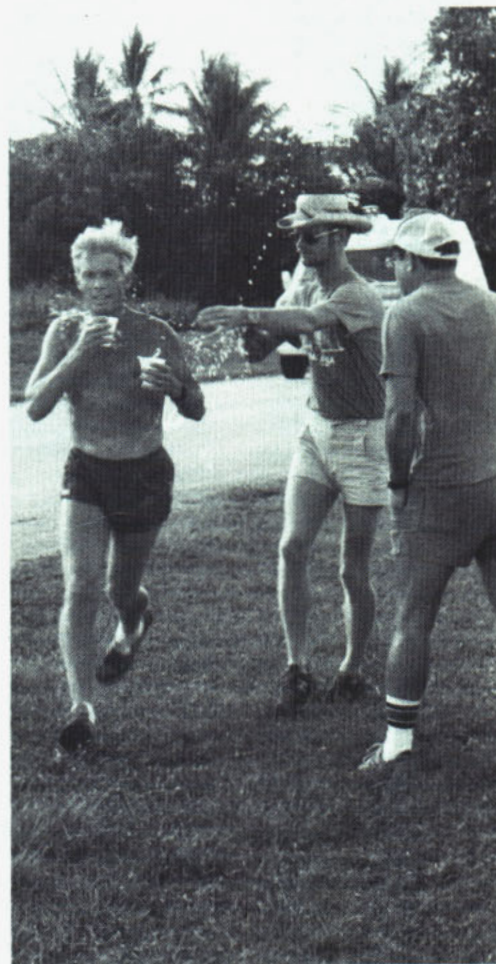
Should commands emphasize a regular physical fitness program?

Definitely. Commanding officers should emphasize to their sailors the importance of physical fitness and the direct link between fitness and readiness. It's important for commanders to provide time and opportunity for physical fitness and to re-

ward those who are outstanding.

How are you promoting physical fitness at your present command?

Some of my sailors say we're doing more than we've done before, and some say I've got the place on the move. We have people involved in fitness programs, and I don't mean just running. We have people who bicycle, walk, swim and lift



Above left: Butterfield pins a medal on a winner of the 1984 Guam Special Olympics. Above: Butterfield grabs cups of water while rounding a corner during a recent marathon on Guam. Right: Butterfield crosses the finish line in first place for his age group during the 40th anniversary of the Liberation of Guam marathon.

in Physical Fitness

weights. We will get some new exercise equipment and improve our facilities because it's important for our sailors to have the means for a good fitness program. Additionally, on Guam we have a relay event called Team Triathlon. One member runs, one bikes and one swims. It's a great way to advertise physical fitness.

Can physical fitness help reduce substance abuse?

I have seen sailors who have gotten away

from unhealthy addictions through physical fitness. I try to preach getting addicted to a healthy lifestyle. We need to have Navy leaders emphasize to sailors that they should have greater concern for their health and undertake a vigorous program of physical fitness. Fighting substance abuse goes hand in glove with providing people opportunities to stay physically fit. In my experience, substance abuse goes down when you offer a healthy alternative like a physical fitness program.

Do you have any specific recommendations for staying in shape?

The best thing people can do is develop an individual exercise program so they get regular, vigorous cardiovascular exercise. And that can come in a number of ways like running, swimming, bicycling or walking. In about four months, you can become physically fit, probably add some time on your life and increase the quality of your life. □

—Story by JO1 Dale Hewey



Bearings

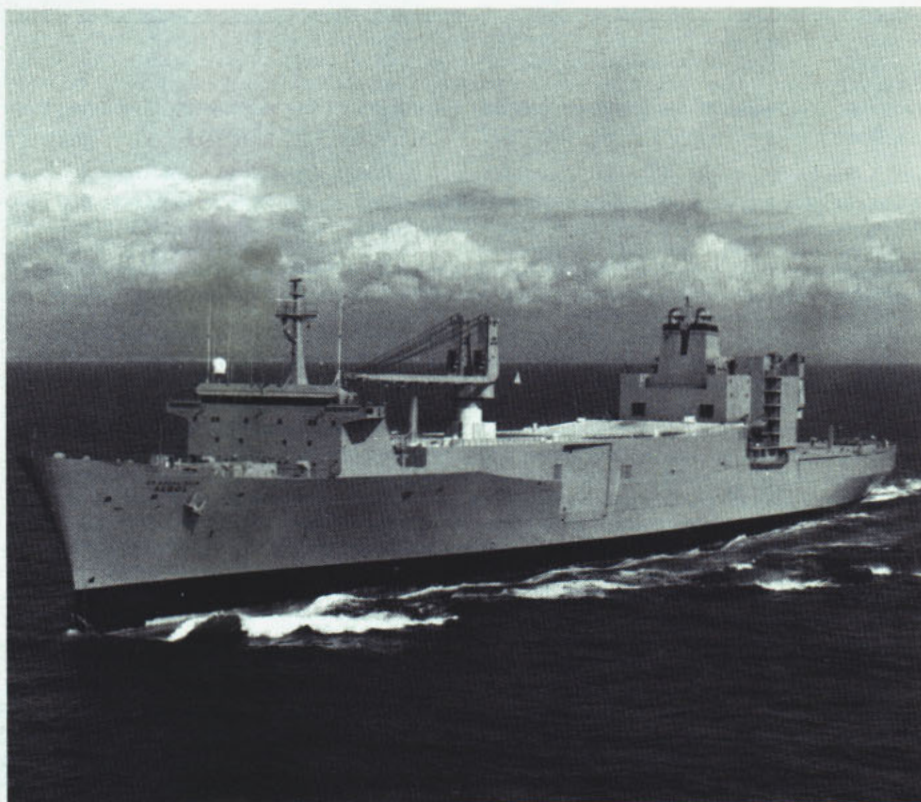
MSC Receives New High Speed Auxiliary Ship

Military Sealift Command has established the fast sealift ship readiness support squadron to oversee the management and operational readiness of eight new high speed auxiliary ships.

The first of the ships delivered to MSC—USNS *Algol* (T-AKR 287)—is a giant. At 946 feet long and 16 stories tall, it is longer and taller than some aircraft carriers. And, as if size weren't enough, *Algol* can travel more than 12,000 miles at 27 knots and can cruise in excess of 30 knots. *Algol's* master merchant marine Captain Paul T. Bentley, a Navy reserve commander, said, "*Algol* is so fast the problem is getting escort frigates to keep up."

Algol can carry enough equipment to outfit a mechanized division, including 122 tanks, 387 vehicles, 82 helicopters and has a helicopter flight deck. *Algol's* two twin cranes make it self-sustaining and capable of off-loading at sea or at ports lacking modern facilities.

Duties of the fast sealift ship readiness support squadron responsible for *Algol*, include direction of ship operations, readiness planning, dock and sea trials, ship-



board training, equipment maintenance inspections, hurricane sortie planning and

implementation, and monitoring of contract operator performance. ■

Can You Help The Museum?

The Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard Treasure Island Museum, San Francisco, is looking for brass work, 19th century uniforms and weapons, books, papers, furniture, souvenirs, personal gear, mechanical equipment, photographs, and scrapbooks from Navy involvement in the Pacific during World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

If you can help or have questions, contact Douglas Brookes, curator, Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard Museum, Bldg. 1, Treasure Island, San Francisco, Calif. 94130, or call (415) 765-6182.

The museum interprets the role of the three sea services in the Pacific and is open to the public 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily, except federal holidays. ■

VA Pamphlet for Ex-POWs

The Veterans Administration has reissued a pamphlet outlining medical care and other benefits available to former prisoners of war and their families.

The law presumes certain disabilities are service-connected, so former prisoners of war may qualify for disability payments without additional proof. Since the change also applies to dependency and indemnity compensation, the pamphlet encourages surviving spouses, children and needy parents of deceased former prisoners of war to claim service-connected death benefits or reopen previously denied claims.

Copies of the pamphlet, "VA Benefits for Former POWs," are available from the nearest VA office. ■

Toll-free Reservations at Navy Lodges

Military families using the Navy Lodge system in the United States can make reservations at most Navy Lodges toll-free by dialing 800-NAVY INN at any time, seven days a week.

The Navy Lodge central reservation office also provides information about hours of operation, daily rates, check-in procedures, and directions on how to reach the Navy Lodges.

Military people from all services, on an accompanied permanent change-of-station move, may make Navy Lodge reservations five to 90 days in advance of their move. People in other categories may make reservations five to 21 days in advance. ■

Sea Lore

Fiddlers' Green is the traditional heaven of seagoing men, comparable to the Viking's Valhalla and the Indian's happy hunting grounds. It's restricted to sailors. Fiddlers' Green is the only heaven claimed by an occupational group. According to legend, Fiddlers' Green is well-supplied with joyous demoiselles, free drinks and plenty of chow, and there are no regulations. Civilians, ineligible for entrance, should read "Fiddlers' Green" by Albert R. Wetjen.

Knows the Ropes—When someone "knows the ropes," he knows his way around and is capable of handling most problems in a given area. The meaning of the phrase has changed somewhat through the years. Originally, the statement was printed on a seaman's discharge to indicate that he knew the names and primary uses of the main ropes aboard ship. In other words, "This man is a novice seaman and knows only the basics of seamanship." ■



Edson and Med Moor

The crew of USS *Edson* (DD 946) showed there's more than one way to moor a ship when they visited Escanaba on Michigan's upper peninsula in July.

Hundreds of people watched as the destroyer backed into its berth at the city's Municipal Pier in a maneuver called a Mediterranean moor. This difficult stern-first berthing, needed because of shallow water alongside the pier, is rarely used in U.S. harbors.

Escanaba has an ordinance against backing cars into parking spaces, and the city carried its law to the sea when it jokingly issued a parking ticket to Commander Welbourne F. Bronaugh Jr., the ship's commanding officer. Bronaugh, playing along with the gag, slipped out of paying the fine by aiming one of *Edson's* 5-inch guns at City Hall.

More than 14,900 people toured the ship during its four-day stay at Escanaba. The



ship visited the Michigan city during a three-month good will cruise of the Great Lakes region in the northeastern U.S. and Canada.

Edson, homeported in Newport, R.I., is the only "all-gun" Forrest Sherman-class destroyer in commission. ■

Bearings

McDonald's Joins the Navy

Big Mac and Ronald McDonald have joined the Navy.

McDonald's Corp. has been awarded a Navy contract to provide its fast foods at Navy installations worldwide. McDonald's Navy menu will be the same as in off-base restaurants, but the prices will be at least 5 percent below the average local price, said the Navy Resale and Services Support Office.

The food sales, the office said, also will provide funds for installation morale, welfare and recreation programs. ■

New Navy Lodges at Jacksonville, Gtmo

New Navy Lodges have opened at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., and U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. These facilities—replacements for old, substandard buildings—are the latest in hotel design and offer greater comfort and convenience to guests.

Guest units at both facilities are identical, fully equipped with kitchenettes and large enough to accommodate a family of five. There are 50 units at Jacksonville renting for \$25 per night, and 26 units at Gtmo for \$23 per night.

Families on permanent change-of-sta-

tion moves may make reservations up to 90 days in advance, and officials at the Navy Resale and Services Support Office suggest reservations be made as far in advance as possible. The Jacksonville Lodge number is (904) 772-6000.

Reservations at the Gtmo Lodge may be made through military sponsors since Gtmo is not on the Navy Lodge central reservation office toll-free number.

The Jacksonville and Gtmo lodges are part of a worldwide reconstruction and modernization program by the Navy Resale and Services Support Office. ■



Navy Chessmen Win Awards

Lieutenant Charles Braun and Dental Technician First Class Ruben R. Ignacio won awards at the 25th annual Armed Forces Chess Championship Tournament in Washington, D.C., this fall.

Braun, an engineering officer aboard USS *Andrew Jackson* (SSBN 619), placed second in the tournament, earning eight out of 12 points during the competition.

Ignacio, a technician in the dental clinic at Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, won the "speed chess" competition. He was required to complete each match in five minutes. Tournament officials said matches usually take 1½ to two hours.

Braun and Ignacio were on the six-member sea services team that included Lieutenant Junior Grade Thomas W. Krause, USS *Sturgeon* (SSN 637), Ignacio's brother, Hospital Corpsman Second Class Romeo R. Ignacio, and Personnelman First Class Nelson V. Rivera, both at Subic Bay, and Lance Corporal Melvin Alsberry, Marine Corps Air Station (Helicopter) New River, Jacksonville, N.C.

Each team member played every other member of the six-member Army and Air



Handicapped Employee of the Year . . . Civilian physicist Douglas W. Martin of the Naval Ocean Systems Center, San Diego, recently was named one of 1984's 10 Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employees of the Year. Martin, blind since birth, is the Navy's Outstanding Handicapped Employee of the Year. He earned bachelor of science degrees in physics, mathematics and psychology at Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio, and a master's degree in engineering acoustics from The Pennsylvania State University. He earned a Navy civilian diver certificate to do research in advanced sonar development, and he's currently heading up an independent sonar research study at the center. Martin uses Braille equipment to communicate with computers and to collect and analyze data. ■

Force teams. The Army team won the tournament held at the American Legion's Washington headquarters. The Legion, the

American Chess Foundation and the United Services Organization co-sponsored the event. ■

From Fleet to Academy

If you're set on becoming an officer, a fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy can help you reach that goal.

Each year, the secretary of the navy may appoint 85 active duty and 85 reserve Navy and Marine Corps members to the academy at Annapolis, Md.

A person seeking an appointment must be a U.S. citizen, at least 17 but no older than 22 on July 1 of the year entering the academy, and unmarried with no dependents. Those considering fleet appointments also must have served 12 full months from pay entry base date before July 1 of the year entering the academy.

Applications for the class of 1989 are

due Feb. 15, 1985. OPNAVINST 1531.4D of Dec. 30, 1981, and Marine Corps Order 1430.11E of May 21, 1982, have full details.

Applicants not accepted to the academy may request consideration for the Naval Academy Preparatory School at Newport, R.I. The school provides a year of concentrated study to enhance an applicant's chances for selection to the academy the following year. Attendance at NAPS is not mandatory for admission to the academy, but a high percentage of enlisted people selected for the academy each year are drawn from the NAPS program. ■

Arkansas Crew Gives Blood in Hong Kong

USS *Arkansas* (CGN 41) crew members donated 48 pints of blood to the Hong Kong Red Cross in August, in anticipation of the need for blood during the monsoon season. It was the ship's first port call at Hong Kong.

One *Arkansas* sailor said, "It's nice to be able to do something for people in the places we visit, and giving blood is one of the best things we can do in a community. It makes us feel a part of people all around the world."

Arkansas homeported in Alameda, Calif., is commanded by Captain Malcolm W. Chase. ■

Letters to the Editor

Longest Deployment?

Not wanting to take any thunder away from the big guns of the USS *New Jersey* (BB 62), but your article on her 331-day cruise, (*All Hands*, August 1984) being the longest since World War II, is wrong.

On Aug. 14, 1978, two minesweepers, USS *Leader* (MSO 490) and USS *Illusive* (MSO 448) departed Charleston, S.C., for a one-year NATO cruise. We returned to Charleston on Aug. 6, 1979, 357 days on deployment—BMCS(SW) M.S. Kreitzer, FMWTC, Charleston, S.C.

USS *New Jersey* may be a great ship, but I know she hasn't made the longest deployment since World War II. USS *Vesuvius* (AE 15) left home port, Concord, Calif., in early February 1972 and returned in March 1973 after a Vietnam deployment.

During that deployment, her last, she transferred more than 35,000 tons of ammunition and none of that was by helo. Too bad she never made the covers of *Time*, *Newsweek* or *All Hands*.—MMCS Melvin W. Lindstrom, USS *Goldsborough* (DDG 20).

I served on a ship deployed for 413 days. USS *Vesuvius* left port on Feb. 14, 1972, and returned to Concord, Calif., March 3, 1973. Even though she is now scrapped and stricken from the records, she was my first and finest command.—MM1(SW) Rodney W. Orr, engineering department, USS *Midway* (CV 41).

Heavenly Daze

The photo, pages 28–29, *All Hands* September 1984, accompanying your story, "Eyes on the Sky," has been labeled erroneously as the Orion Nebula. The Orion Nebula, M-42, lies in the constellation of Orion at about 1,500 light-years (from Earth.)

The nebula pictured in your story is, in fact, the Trifid Nebula, M-28 in the constellation of Sagittarius.—EW2 Donald E. Barnard, USS *Garcia* (FF 1040).

I found your story on the U.S. Naval Observatory interesting, but noted an error about the picture on pages 28 and 29. You identified it as M-42, the great Orion Nebula, but it looks

like M-20, the Trifid Nebula, at a distance of about 4,800 light-years (from Earth.)

Other than that, it was a good article. Keep up the good work.—AD1 Gerald Affeldt, NAS Whidbey Island, Wash.

As an amateur astronomer, I bring to your attention an error in the September 1984 issue on pages 28 and 29. You identified the Trifid Nebula in Sagittarius, M-20, (incorrectly) as the Orion Nebula, M-42. Thank you for a good publication.—OSC Charles L. Grubb, Combat Systems Technical Schools Command, Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.

• *These stargazers are correct. The nebula is Trifid, M-20 and not Orion. Somehow, the wrong slide got into print. The "Observers' Handbook 1984" of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, the observatory's recommended reference, puts the M-20 nebula about 3,500 light-years from planet Earth.*

... the editor

Full dress blues

Sharp-eyed readers telephoned and wrote to ask why newly commissioned Ensign Raymond Scott was wearing ribbons on the wrong side of his blouse in this picture from All Hands' September 1984 issue. Others—who didn't notice Scott and his drill instructor were saluting with their right



hands—asked All Hands if it printed the picture backwards. The ensign, in full dress uniform for his commissioning, is wearing award medals on his left side, blocked from view by the drill instructor. On the right side of his blouse, Ensign Scott wears in correct precedence, inboard to outboard, ribbons for awards that don't have medals. The ribbons are, from left, looking at the picture, Navy Pistol Markmanship, Sea Service Deployment and the Navy Unit Commendation.

... the editor

Correction

Participation in Ocean Venture '84, by the USS *America* (CV 66) inadvertently was omitted from *All Hands*' September 1984 article on that exercise.

Letters to the editor of *All Hands* magazine should be brief, to the point, typed double-spaced on one side of a page or printed legibly and not exceed 500 words. They must include the author's full name, rate, rank, address, office and home telephone numbers and be signed. Names and addresses will be withheld on request. The editor may paraphrase and shorten letters as space requires. Mail letters to: Editor, *All Hands*, Hoffman No. 2, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332-2200.

Reunions

• **USS Chew (DD 106)**—Reunion Dec. 1984. Contact Jesse Pond, P.O. Box 205, Sperryville, Va. 22740; telephone (703) 987-8515.

• **USS Cooper (DD 695)**—Reunion Dec. 1984. Contact J.E. Bickers, 128 Piney Bend, Portage, Ind. 46368; telephone (219) 763-3871.

• **USS Enterprise (CV 6)**—Reunion Painesville, Ohio, Dec. 7, 1984. Contact Ed Doss, S. Forrest Road, Westport, Wash. 98595; telephone (206) 268-9742.

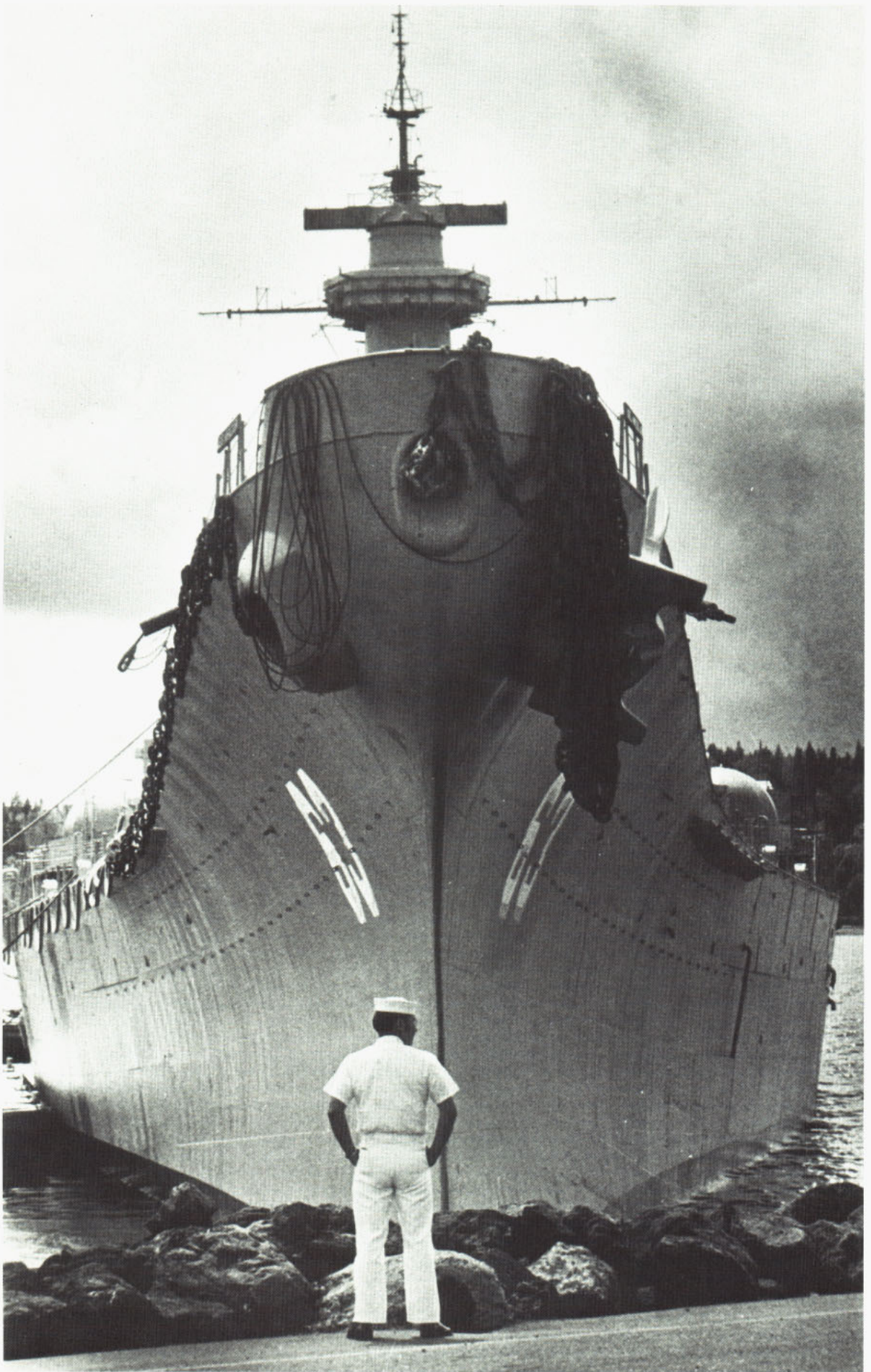
Wire cable and towing chain are rigged on the bow of the 45,000-ton battleship Missouri (BB 63) in preparation for the tow from Bremerton, Wash. to Long Beach, Calif.

—Photo by PH1 Bob Weissleder

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Caring For Our Veterans • Page18